

The Middlebury Campus

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SGA Reveals Unapproved Expenditures

By Will DiGravio
Senior Writer

Approximately \$2,000 in unapproved expenditures were charged to the budget account of the Student Government Association (SGA). The charges were made on behalf of the SGA First-Year Committee, a group co-chaired by First-Year Senators Kieran Parikh '19 and Charles Rainey '19.

According to SGA Treasurer Aaron de Toledo '16, the charges, while unapproved, were within the SGA guidelines, and were mostly used to fund food for First-Year Committee events dating back to November of last year. He received the receipts from the expenditures on May 2 of this year, and shared his findings at the May 8 meeting of the SGA.

Like all student organizations, the SGA receives a yearly

budget, drawn from the allocations account of the overall student activities budget. Due to the unbudgeted expenditures of the First-Year Committee, \$2,000 had to be added to the SGA budget for this fiscal year.

The expenditures were made through the use of the SGA index code — a code that only approved SGA officials can use to make purchases from in-town vendors, who then use the code to bill the College. The account is typically used to fund events hosted by SGA Cabinet Members and Senators.

Before using the index code, approved officials must receive prior approval from either de Toledo or SGA President Ilana Gratch '16. However, both Parikh and Rainey said they were unaware of this guideline.

"This has been particularly distressing to me as, throughout

SEE SGA, PAGE 2

Symposium for AIM Focuses on Activists and Allies

By Nick Garber
Senior Writer

On Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7 the Alliance for an Inclusive Middlebury (AIM) held its inaugural symposium, entitled "Activists, Allies and Accomplices: Responses to Racism Today."

AIM was formed earlier this year by President of the College Laurie L. Patton, and is comprised of students, faculty and staff. The group's responsibilities include launching initiatives to foster inclusivity, giving regular progress reports to administrators and publicizing statistics regarding the College's institutional diversity.

The symposium began Friday evening with a panel on allyship that featured undergraduate students from the College as well as graduate students from the Institute of International Studies at Monterey.

On Saturday Rinku Sen, executive director of the racial justice organization Race Forward, gave the keynote address. In her speech Sen detailed the evolution of her involvement with racial justice issues. As an undergraduate student, she said, she paid little attention to activism of any sort until friends staged an "intervention."

"Denial is like a drug," Sen

said. "It does make you feel better, it gives you relief, but you have to keep taking it, because something's gonna bring you back to reality."

Sen later attended a student rally. "For the first time in the 12 years since my family had immigrated, I felt like I belonged" she said.

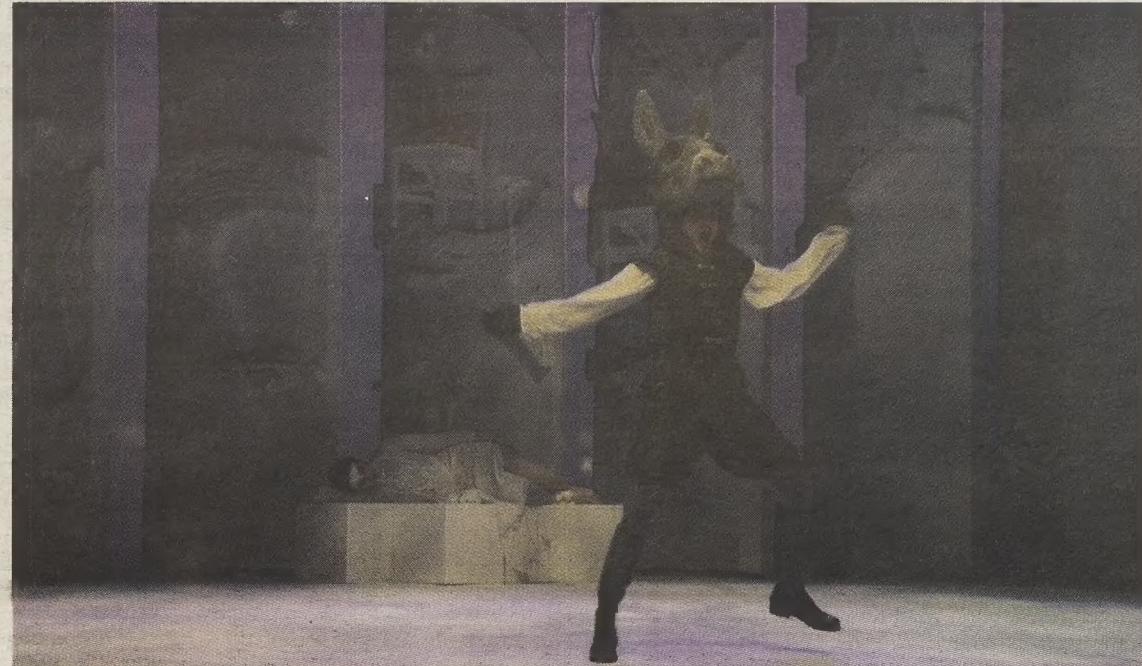
"That was the moment where I understood that being an American isn't about looking like Marsha Brady," she said. "It is about investing in your community with all the people who are in it to make it the most inclusive, most effective, most fair community it could be."

Sen shared that her devotion to activism keeps her grounded in the United States.

"Every election I've experienced since I started organizing, someone says, 'If so-and-so wins, I'm moving to Canada,'" she said. "And every election, I say, whatever happens, I'm going nowhere. This is my home, I'm an American. And I expect some pretty rough times, and a fair amount of suffering. But I know that if we keep going in the ways we have been going, by organizing, by changing the rules and tools that control our lives, I know we can achieve peace

SEE AIM, PAGE 3

A Midsummer Night's Dream



ANTHEA VITA VIRACH

Zac Lounsbury '16 pranced across the Wright Theater stage in Associate Professor of Theatre Claudio Medeiros' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* last weekend, Thursday, May 5 to Sunday, May 8. See full review on page 15.

Art Activism Group Raises Sexual Assault Awareness

By Elizabeth Zhou
Arts & Sciences Editor

Partygoers passing through the Chromatic social house last Saturday night, May 7 may have been met by a surprising sight: four individuals, in varying states of undress, standing by the entryway with purple handprints painted over their abdomens and cardboard signs in their hands. Student bodyguards stood beside them, handing out informational slips, interacting with passersbys and making sure that the performers remained untouched.

"Not asking for it," the first sign in the lineup read.

"Still not asking for it," the next two read.

And finally: "Sexual assault leaves a mark."

This was the fifth public instal-

lation of the art activism group Stares on Stairs. The main organizers of the movement are Chi Chi Chang '18, Elizabeth Dunn '18, Katie Mayopoulos '18, Morgan Grady-Benson '18 and Nell Sather '19. Their activism is open to anyone who is interested in the cause, and each performance thus far has been composed by a slightly different group of 12-15 individuals.

"It feels different every place we perform," Sather said. "This weekend's party felt very intense for a lot of reasons: the close physical proximity, the level of drunkenness, the noise and a much wider and larger audience than before."

The idea for a radical campaign for sexual assault awareness was launched in "Radical Humanity: Performance and

Social Activism," a 2016 J-Term course taught by visiting filmmaker, choreographer and activist Tiffany Rhynard. Since then, the group has evolved and expanded into the public consciousness, implementing their first three installations in the stairwells of the Atwater suites, a notorious party scene on campus. Each performer stood on a platform, as two students serving as bodyguards stood on either side of them.

Meanwhile, the fourth performance took place in the hallway outside Kenyon Arena Center before the BØRNS concert a few weeks ago. Signs for alternative routes were present at all venues, alerting passersbys of the upcoming scene and allowing them to avoid it as they wished.

SEE ART INSTALLATION, PAGE 16

MIDD MAYHEM 2016

THURS. MAY 12

Student Bar at Crossroads

-7:30-9:30 pm

- Lemonade and Snacks
- Otter Creek Beer, Woodchuck Cider & Wine
- Live Music with MSTRYWHSKY

FRI. MAY 13

-machineheart Concert on Battell Circle (8 pm)

- Tropical Paradise at the Marquis (10:30 pm | 18+)
- Beachside Cocktail Menu
- Tropical Ice Luge
- DJs Peter Huffman & Norris Ou

SAT. MAY 14

Pig Roast on Atwater Lawn

- Iron Eyes Cody (5-7 pm)
- 150 lb pig & BBQ food
- Outdoor Games

SUN. MAY 15

Color Run & Holi Festival

(11 am | Battell Beach)

HOSTED BY MCAB

INSIDE



GENDER SEGREGATION AND WAGE GAP

PAGE 4



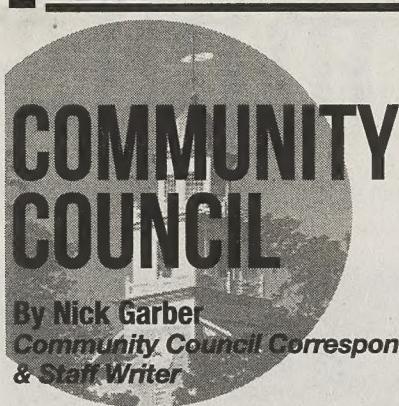
REPORT:
TRUSTEES DONATE MILLIONS TO PACS

PAGE 10



PTSD PLAY BRINGS HUMOR TO HEALING

PAGE 14



By Nick Garber
Community Council Correspondent
& Staff Writer

On Tuesday, May 3, President of the College Laurie L. Patton and Special Assistant to the President Dave Donahue visited Community Council to discuss several recent Council initiatives as well as broader questions pertaining to the long-term role of the body.

Patton's visit began by giving brief thoughts on several topics that had been selected by the Council members. The first subject was the Honor Code, and whether it should be amended. Patton said that one of her primary concerns with the Honor Code is its inability to address cultural differences in regard to plagiarism.

"We have real cultural differences that are genuine around what it means to present your work as your own," she said. "People who come from other cultures with different citation practices will paraphrase a lot of the quotes... and they get called out for plagiarism and it becomes extremely painful."

Patton spoke next about the protected breaks recommendation introduced by Emma Bliska '18. Patton advised that Bliska emphasizes that her proposal seeks primarily to make mental health a higher priority in the design of syllabi.

Finally, Patton addressed the College's involvement with the town of Middlebury. Patton cited economic differences as one frequent source of tension.

"The town used to have the wealth, in 1800, and the College had none," she said. "Now the College has the wealth and the town is struggling. That's a structural inequality that we can do a lot to help change without necessarily compromising our educational mission."

Patton went on to discuss her Conversations First Model for approaching contentious issues, and explained why she finds it to be a superior method. Patton cited recent student activism in regard to gender-neutral bathrooms as an example of the positive effects of conversation.

"There was an electronic petition that hit me out of nowhere about gender-neutral bathrooms, from Trans and Allies," she said. "I was like, 'whoa — how do I respond, what do I do?' So we had a conversation ... and when the group and I met, they had a ten-point plan, and it was all doable. There wasn't anything unreasonable in it. It was a very good, future-oriented plan. So they left kind of surprised, like, 'We weren't expecting that!' I was like, 'Well, that's because you didn't ask.'"

Finally, the group discussed the Council's long-term role. Patton emphasized that she finds the Council to be a valuable force, and hopes that it can continue long into the future.

On Tuesday, May 10, the Council met for its final session of the 2015-16 academic year. The Council welcomed Roberto Lint Sagarena and Jennifer Herrera, director and associate director of the Anderson Freeman Resource Center, respectively, who gave an update on LGBTQ-related inclusivity initiatives.

Lint Sagarena and Herrera shared that the administration has adopted several new policies following a meeting in Old Chapel with the Trans Affinity Group. These policies include faculty training on the importance of respecting students' preferred gender pronouns, updating the school website to include more information about the College's health coverage of gender transitions, and expanding the number of gender-neutral restrooms across campus.

Clair Beltran '16 asked how faculty might be incentivized to implement these policies, given the possibility that some could be resistant to change.

"Part of it, hopefully, is a persuasive enough presentation of why it matters," Lint Sagarena responded. "After that, if it becomes something where there are faculty who are creating hostile environment, that would be addressed on an individual basis."

Council members also responded to questions posed by incoming Student Co-Chair David Pesqueira '17 regarding the Council's accomplishments this past year and what members hope to address next year.

Two Professors Awarded in Ceremony

By Nora O'Leary
Contributing Writer

Professor of Political Science Matt Dickinson and Associate Director of the Anderson Freeman Resource Center Jennifer Herrera were honored at a ceremony for receiving the Lamberti Faculty and Degravie Staff Appreciation Awards, respectively. The ceremony was held last Tuesday, May 10.

Dickinson specializes in American politics, teaching classes on congressional and national elections, the presidency and bureaucracy. This year, he has taken a break from teaching to follow the presidential candidates. He has attended their rallies, spoken with the media and recorded his thoughts on his Presidential Power blog.

Herrera's work is largely centered on multicultural student affairs. This year, she has been working to launch the recently opened Anderson Freeman Resource Center located in Carr Hall. The Center provides counseling services, study rooms and spaces for students from various cultural organizations to come together. She has also worked to strengthen and enhance some of the LGBTQ initiatives on campus, such as evaluating the availability of gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.

Both recipients of the award have been working at the College for more than a decade. Herrera arrived in 2003 from Pennsylvania State University, and Dickinson from Harvard in 2001. In their time here, they've both witnessed and been an active part of important changes on campus and within the student body.

"I've seen the demographics of the student body change in so many ways in the time that I've been here at Middlebury," Herrera said. "It has definitely grown in diversity, and the students have changed. When I first came, students seemed a little apathetic, now not so much. They're really concerned with the world, their surroundings and themselves, with a lot of hope and desires for things to be better. They're finding their voice as change

agents, which I think is absolutely amazing."

Both Dickinson and Herrera are involved with their students outside of the classroom. Herrera's day-to-day schedule includes working closely with students on an individual level. Dickinson has worked with students on independent research projects and papers, which they have presented at important political science conferences.

"It's been an increasingly important component of being here — working with students outside of the classroom on independent research projects," Dickinson said. "You can't be an effective teacher if you don't enjoy it. And you can't enjoy it unless you have good students. We have great students here, so in some sense this award is for the students as well. I'm very lucky to have such great students, not just in the classroom, but also at these politics luncheons and as research assistants."

Students submit nominations for the Faculty and Staff Appreciation Awards, which were created by the Student Government Administration, with a statement explaining why he or she deserves the award. The recipients were announced in an all-student email on May 4.

"I'm completely shocked," Dickinson said. "But I'm very honored because obviously there are lots of great teachers here. I'm not under any illusion that I'm the best one, so I'm kind of accepting it on behalf of all the very good teachers we have. And of course the other reason I'm honored is because it's named after Marjorie, and she's a wonderful woman."

Herrera said, "I was really honored to receive the award, and quite surprised. I do a lot of this work without thinking about what I am going to get out of it, without expectations. I don't hold attachment to the result, I just do it from a place of love and compassion."

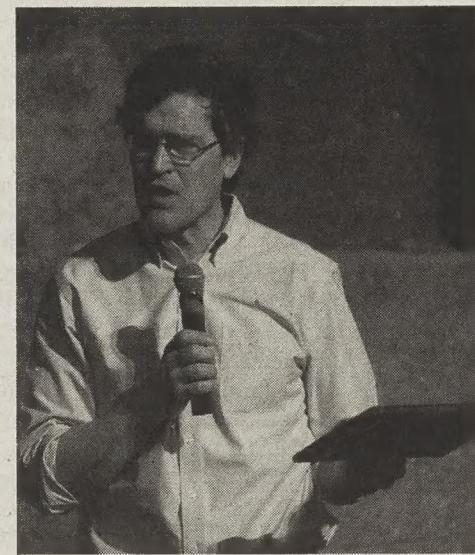
Both recipients spoke about what they hope to see in the coming years at the College. Dickinson, who is excited by the recent student activism on campus, hopes that the

important and necessary conversations on diversity continue from an open-minded perspective.

"It's a conversation we needed to have and it's an ongoing one. It's one that doesn't have any right or wrong answer but it's important that we have it," Dickinson said. "But in that conversation the one thing I hope we don't lose sight of is the need for ideological and political diversity. So I'd hate to think that a certain viewpoint is going to get shut down."

Herrera expresses a desire for the College as an institution to become truly in touch with its students.

She said, "I hope that we'll get to a place where students don't constantly have to tell us where we need to change. I hope that we'll already anticipate those concerns and continue to grow. Instead of doing something and checking off a box, we need to stay up to speed on best practices and how to serve students on a holistic level."



MICHAEL O'HARA

Professor of Political Science, Matt Dickinson accepted the Lamberti Faculty Appreciation Award on Tuesday, May 10.

SGA COMMITTEE SPENDS \$2000 IN UNAPPROVED CHARGES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the year, I have made a consistent effort to comply with all policies and procedures regarding the Committee as they have been communicated to me," Parikh said.

He continued, "In late October, at the end of a Senate meeting, I asked Treasurer de Toledo personally what the procedure was to spend money for [the] First-Year Committee. At that time, he told me the index code and that I needed to fill out a yellow slip to make a purchase. Additionally, at this time, neither the requirement that Charles and I seek approval for First-Year Committee purchases [nor] that we submit receipts was communicated to me."

Due to communication errors between Parikh, Rainey and other SGA leaders, including Gratch, the First-Year Senators began the year with the impression that they had a \$2,500 budget from which they could freely spend.

"I think this happened because of the lack of communication we had coming in," Rainey said at the May 8 meeting of the

SGA. "Before the First-Year Committee had even started, we weren't necessarily told that we had to go for approval in making any decisions regarding allocations of funds. In fact, we were told that we did have a budget, from multiple sources, including past First-Year Senators, and this was [approved], in a general fashion, by different authorities within the SGA."

He continued, "I think, for the First-Year Committee, it was just as [much] a surprise that we didn't have a budget as it was a surprise for the Finance Committee."

Formed in 2012, the First-Year Committee is designed to provide additional programming and events in order to aid the incoming class' acclimation to life at the College.

The First-Year Committee, like all SGA Committees, does not have a pre-determined budget. Rather, First-Year Senators have the option to request money from the SGA budget on a case-by-case basis. No line item for the First-Year Committee has ever been set or institutionalized in the

SGA budget.

"[SGA] Committees don't have budgets," de Toledo said. "There is a 'Committee Budget' that covers all committees, and then it is the responsibility of members of [a given] committee to come and request an event, and we will allocate them some money to use on that event."

According to Junior Senator and SGA President-Elect Karina Toy '17, in years past, the First-Year Committee has received upwards of \$2,000 to fund various events throughout the year. However, they were always approved, as previously stated, on a case-by-case basis.

Next year, as SGA President, Toy plays to fix the system to avoid further miscommunication.

"We're going to create a new index code, it will have \$2,000 in it next year, and then give that to the First-Year Senators," Toy said. "And then we'll be very clear about [how] every time you make a purchase you need to return receipts within a week."

Gratch declined to comment on the situation.

MiddRides App in Beta Goes on Test Drive

By Rae Aaron
Contributing Writer

On Sunday evening, May 8, the new MiddRides phone application successfully underwent its first trial run. The app, which drastically increases MiddRides efficiency, is set to be launched for student use this fall.

After students register with their College email address, they select a pick-up location from the nine currently existing locations as listed on the Public Safety website. The app then alerts the dispatcher, usually a Public Safety Officer, who releases drivers to different locations based on the number of requests showing on the app's spreadsheet. When a driver is en route, students are alerted through the app even when the app is closed on their phone.

The app also follows up with students as to whether they got onto the van to pro-

vide statistics for Public Safety.

This first trial run culminates six months of intense development and collaboration between Public Safety and Middle Endian, the College's Computer Science club. The six-member team of student developers that created the app includes Sherif Nada '16, Julian Billings '16, Khi Hua Chou '16, Ben Brown '18, Nosagie Asaolu '18 and Tao Peter Wang '18, all of whom are studying or majoring in computer science.

Public Safety met with the student developers to investigate options for the app, and Officer Debra Ekdahl confirmed that Sunday's trial went well.

"The developers have worked to meet operational needs of the program and were receptive to feedback about possible changes," Ekdahl said.

The team divided up the work over the development period, and used Android Studio for the tool, and Java and Node.js

for programming language. The app was completed in March, and since then they have been testing it for bugs.

Wang described the process as a fun self-taught learning experience with friends. The group has spent countless hours together, and Wang says the fun part is when they get together, argue over different ideas and come to a consensus in the end.

While the app will save both student and dispatcher time on the phone and create more effective routes, it is far from completion. The team will be moving the database to a different location, and hopes to incorporate more advanced features in the future such as wait time notification. With Nada — the leading member — and the two other seniors graduating this month, the group is recruiting at least one new student developer who enjoys coding to contribute to the team as they move into the app's final stages.

Projects for Peace Funds Aissatou Gaye '16

By Brandon Baldovin
Contributing Writer

Aissatou Gaye '16 has just received a \$10,000 grant from Projects for Peace, an organization that empowers undergraduates worldwide to pursue ideas that harbor peace and facilitate positive change. The funding will enable Gaye, an economics major, to return to her home country of Senegal to start a youth summer enrichment camp in Dakar in the hopes of cultivating human capital in a country with a floundering educational system.

Gaye describes her grade school experience in Senegal as unchallenging and traditional. "When you're in a classroom in Senegal, it's just you listening to a teacher tell you what to think and how you should study," she said. Her work will try to counteract and reform this.

While simple on paper, Gaye's proposal exposes her role in controlling the strings of this multifaceted operation. She has designed the three-week program as a spark for creativity, proactivity and critical thinking in the 30 or so participants she will have. The program will integrate daily classes, discussions, workshops, guest speakers and mentorships.

Gaye has assembled a core team of five adults to help oversee teaching and logistics, especially the groundwork in Senegal while she is still in Middlebury. To do this, she tapped into the network she established during high school at the African Leadership Academy in South Africa, which included her close friend and fellow Sen-

egalese Claire Audrey Ba, a senior at John Carroll University. Several other counselors will join the staff, bringing the student-teacher ratio to 1:3.

In selecting facilitators, Gaye kept a keen eye for those who share her drive. "One of the keys for a successful project is having people who are as passionate as you are about what you are trying to achieve," she said. "And I was fortunate enough to have gathered those people who are highly motivated."

Gaye has confronted a number of challenges in her process, including outreach and housing for participants, many of whom will fly in from throughout Senegal. Graciously, her old boarding school offered their facilities and dormitories for the students. Gaye is also moving to secure funding for the future and establish a meaningful marketing campaign that will help sustain the current tuition-free model.

The project spawned from Gaye's work at MiddCORE last summer. Gaye hopes to translate her experiences at Middlebury and the African Leadership Academy into a program that will not only challenge participants, but will also constantly gauge itself and its methods against the backdrop of its mission. This type of dynamism, combined with a concern for character, will help dismantle the bulwark of the myopic educational system in place.

Those who have worked with Gaye share admiration for her leadership and motivation. Economics Department Coordinator Amy Holbrook who has become close to Gaye since her first year remarked her life

and the life of her 10-year-old son Elliot have been "enriched by Gaye's presence." Holbrook continued, "She has a very positive energy, which is why people gravitate towards her. She is also a modest leader."

Jessica Carrick-Hagenbarth, a visiting instructor in economics, said, "She's a wonderful example of somebody who has come from abroad and made incredible strides, succeeding in the work she's done here."

Director of MiddCORE and Professor of Economics Jessica Holmes commented, "I met Gaye during MiddCORE last summer and was immediately struck by her creativity, work ethic, deep empathy and the gracious way she interacts with others. By the end of the month, I knew she was going to change the world one day, and it looks like she already is!"



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

An economics major, Aissatou Gaye '16 was awarded \$10,000 from Projects for Peace and will start a youth summer enrichment camp in her home country, Senegal.

Journalist Discusses Future of Higher Education

By Kitty Pollack
Contributing Writer

Jeffrey J. Selingo, journalist, author and higher education analyst spoke at the College on Monday, May 9 in Dana Auditorium. Selingo's book *College (Un)Bound: The Future of Higher Education and What it Means for Students* was a New York Times Best Seller in 2013 and his newest book, *There is Life After College* was published last month.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Jeffrey J. Selingo, a journalist and author, spoke on May 9 about the problems with the future of higher education.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that comes from justice, and not from repression."

Sen's speech was followed by a panel of student activists, including Angie McCarthy '19, Rana Abdelhamid '15 and Ashley Bomboka, a current senior at Bowdoin College.

Asked about her experience with activism at Middlebury, Abdelhamid shared that she felt disillusioned as a freshman.

McCarthy said that during her short time at the College, she has tried to identify various potential avenues for activism.

"I started my work here in much more

informal settings, with conversations within my commons and within my friend groups, as well as going to different cultural orgs and having conversations there," she said. "Most of my activist work has been through AIM, and right now we're working to create a more inclusive Middlebury that all of us can not just enjoy, but grow with."

Bomboka said that she has learned from her activism at Bowdoin to be "as solution-oriented as possible."

"[Early in my college career] I was just angry, and I was mad and I wanted to say everything I wanted to say," Bomboka said. "That can't get you far, because you're not

is not becoming more selective.

Selingo addressed the myth, developed by the press, that all Americans from ages 18 to 22 are enrolled in four-year residential colleges. In reality, however, only 20 percent of students pursuing degrees in higher education go to traditional four-year private colleges. This myth has led students and states to feel less connected to their public universities. This is problematic at a time when the American student body is undergoing a massive change.

Eight million more students are pursuing higher education than they did two and a half decades ago. Selingo said the fundamental issue for this diversifying student body is income inequality. According to Selingo, while a student has a one in 17 chance of getting a bachelor's degree by the time he or she is 26 if his or her family makes less than \$30,000 a year, he or she would have a one in two chance if his or her family made more than \$90,000 a year.

Selingo also discussed the college wage premium — the average bump in wages for college graduates — which has risen from 42 percent in the 1980's to more than 80 percent today. Selingo said this shift has caused college degrees to be treated increasingly as commodities. And yet, Selingo said, a degree is no longer a guarantee of success. Fifty percent of college graduates are underemployed in jobs that do not require a bachelor's degree.

Selingo said it is time to rethink higher education in our changing economy. His newest book *There is Life After College* describes the skills gap that students face. According to Selingo, employers are not looking for hard skills but rather soft skills. They are looking for curiosity, grit, contextual thinking and humility. They want their employees to be communicators, writers, organized, detail-oriented and problem solvers. Selingo argued that today's undergraduate education is not producing students with these competencies. Students are overwhelmed by requirements and are expected to master both practical and liberal arts and be experiential learners in the span of four years.

Selingo argued for the need for a more holistic education. He pointed to the open loop university, an idea that originated at the Stanford Design School. An open loop university would offer students six years of schooling to complete at any point in their lifetime, in any increment.

Selingo delivered the annual Robert W. van de Velde '75 Memorial lecture. Van de Velde attended the College and was an active member of the the College's radio station during his time here. After his death in 1981, his parents, widow and other family members and friends created the lecture series to honor his passion for broadcast journalism. The series bring speakers to campus to discuss public affairs and journalism.

AIM, ALLIANCE FOR AN INCLUSIVE MIDDLEBURY, HOSTS SYMPOSIUM

engaging people — it's just putting yourself out there, and nobody can really work with that, even you yourself can't really work with that. So always keep that glass-half-full approach, and try to find ways to connect with other people, versus staying in your own zone of anger and venting."

The symposium concluded with a speech by Rashawn Ray, a sociology professor at the University of Maryland, College Park, and a faculty panel on issues of race, difference and power.

Patton, who attended the entire day's events, told *The Campus* that she valued the symposium's inclusion of diverse voices and

pragmatic focus.

"I think it's been a fantastic event so far, partly because of the voices that have been part of the conversation," she said. "We've had student and faculty voices from Monterey, from Middlebury and staff voices from Middlebury, as well as other colleges like us, like Bowdoin."

"I've also felt like the conversation was really constructive and focused on things that we can do, and best practices," she said. "And the more conversations are focused on best practices, the better off we're all going to be, and the better off we can make Middlebury."

Gender Disparities Persist in Vermont STEM Jobs

By Hye-Jin Kim and Rebecca Walker
Senior Writer and Local Editor

Vermont's reputation for progressive and liberal politics may be undeserved, at least when it comes to labor-gender equality.

A recent report by "Change the Story," a statewide initiative devoted to female economic empowerment, revealed that little has changed in Vermont for women workers since the passage of Title IX in 1972. Occupational segregation, or the uneven gender distribution across

Often, male-heavy enrollment in engineering programs at liberal arts colleges helps account for high salaries of male graduates. However, Middlebury has no engineering program. What gives?

At Middlebury, the lucrative male-dominated path appears to be finance. Middlebury's economics department is currently the most popular major among all students. Roughly two of every three economics majors are male, according to a 2014 Student Profile Report published by the College.

The same report revealed the gender distribution was even more skewed

nario: "Guys create a culture that's hard to break into as a female. I feel like that's the main issue for most male-dominated fields. It's not really the work, but the interpersonal connections that exclude women," said Mike Pettit '16, a computer science major. "There's a way you act when you're with people that's all your gender."

He noted conversations in the computer science lab were on traditionally "guy topics" like the NBA playoffs.

Shannia Fu '17, a female computer science major, has felt excluded by males in her major, though not for social reasons. In the summer of 2015, Fu worked as a research assistant for a computer science professor alongside three male coworkers. When she pointed out flaws in their code or logic, she was accused of being too aggressive.

"None of the other guys called one another aggressive," she said. "The worst thing is when I displayed a sort-of pissed off reaction, the other two guys also jokingly called me aggressive. I think a lot of people, not just women, would be discouraged by comments like that."

Fu noted that her experience as a female computer science major at Middlebury has generally been positive. "At Middlebury, I actually think most of the CS teachers are very conscious of trying to help the women achieve what they want to achieve," she said.

WiCs++, or Women in Computer Science, is a recent example of an initia-

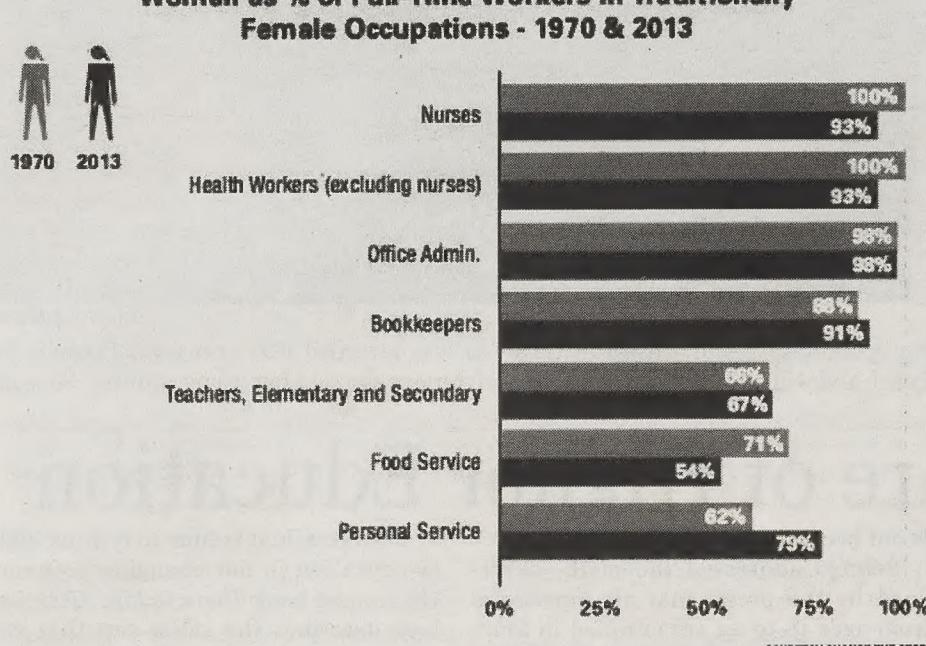
years since gaining a Ph.D.), according to a 2008 report by the Task Force on the Status of Women at Middlebury College.

However, female professors at the College continue to be underrepresented in tenured and tenure-track positions. According to the 2008 report, women were more likely to be hired into term positions than tenure-track positions among assistant professors. As of 2009, female faculty held only 12 of the 50 endowed professorship positions.

The administration has known of this discrepancy since 1997, when the first report by the Task Force on the Status of Women at Middlebury College was published. An updated report in 2008, based on a survey of about 900 respondents including student, staff and faculty, revealed the same discrepancy — only 24 percent of full professors and 29 percent of associate professors were female.

It makes sense to expect a slower change in female representation in full professor positions given the time it takes to attain tenure and the small number of female tenured professors in 1997. But given that 46 percent of faculty hires from 1999 to 2007 were female, what explains the stubborn occupational segregation among associate professors?

In five of the eight years spanning 1999 to 2007, the College hired more males. In two of these years, they hired an equal number. In just one year the College hired more females.



Little has changed since 1970, as women are still overrepresented in the above professions.

and within labor sectors, stubbornly persists.

"Women are clustered in the same occupations today as they were back in 1970," Cary Brown, Executive Director of the Vermont Commission on Women informed VTDigger. "We still have ideas about what are appropriate jobs for women and what are appropriate jobs for men."

These 'female professions' include office administration, food-service, teaching and nursing, according to the "Change the Story" report. Typical "male professions" include computers and math, engineering and law enforcement.

The College is no exception. As the largest employer in Addison County, the College employs over 1,500 Vermonters in faculty and staff positions. The report illuminates the occupational segregation present among these employees and possible gender biases in hiring decisions.

The most recent report on the status of women faculty and staff dates back to 2008. It states that the "College on the Hill" perpetuates occupational segregation, corroborating findings from the 2016 "Change the Story" report.

Men Dominate High-Paying Sectors

In 2015, female alumni from the College earned a median salary of \$57,300 ten years after matriculating. Male alumni from the same class year earned 91 percent more, or \$109,200.

This salary discrepancy is not unique to Middlebury. Amherst College, a similar liberal arts institution, reported a difference of 79 percent between male and female alumni.

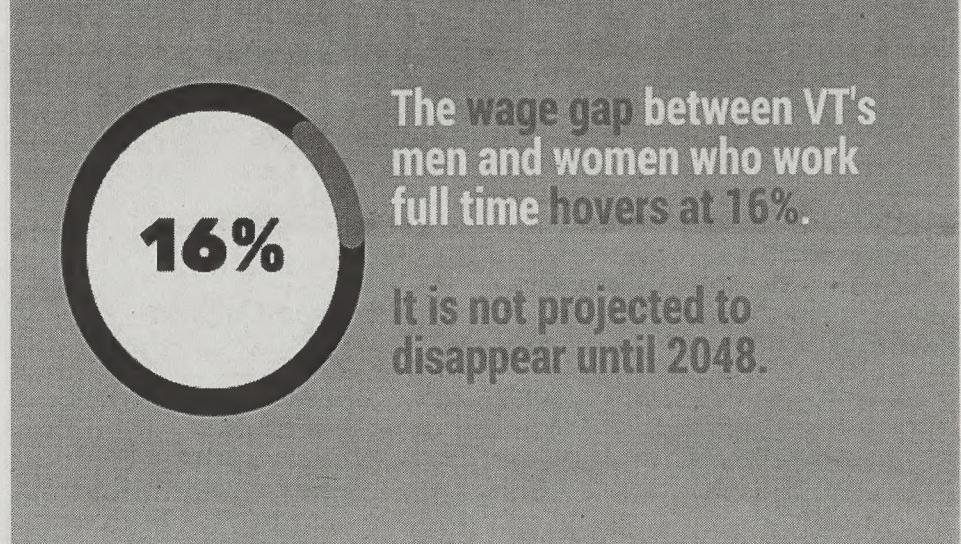
"None of the other guys called each other aggressive."

SHANNIA FU '17

sector does not begin in high school. The College Board reported that female high school students in Vermont are just as likely to take Advanced Placement tests in calculus, chemistry and biology as their male peers.

However, men at the University of Vermont and other Vermont state colleges (VSCs) continue to outpace women in pursuing graduate degrees in physics, chemistry, computer science, economics and engineering. From 2011 to 2014, UVM and other VSCs awarded 4 physics degrees to women and 21 to men. Eighteen women received degrees in computer science in the same time span that 128 men did. The engineering programs had roughly six male graduates for every female.

According to students at Middlebury College, gender distribution among college majors appears to be a Catch-22 sce-



COURTESY CHANGE THE STORY

tive by faculty to encourage and support women in the department.

"In addition to providing support for minorities in CS on campus, we want to promote CS for minorities in the Midd community by holding events. We want to encourage girls to pursue CS in college if they want," Fu said, describing a solution beyond patching the primary education pipeline.

Tenure at Middlebury College

While professorship was not included as a computer or math-related occupation in the "Change the Story" report, female professors at the College continue to face challenges with under-representation among tenured colleagues.

In terms of salary, female faculty members did not make less than their male colleagues with similar rank and experience (measured by number of

Continued on next page.

Continued from page 3.

This disadvantage in prestige and respect that female faculty must overcome also includes difficulty asserting authority in classrooms and facing aggression from male students in response to grading.

Middlebury Staff Labor Divisions

The report's findings also help explain the perpetuation of 1970s-era gender-labor divisions at the College.

"[In Vermont], women's work is still women's work," the Change the Story report concluded.

It cited the most segregated sector in Vermont as the Installation, Maintenance and Repair sector. The workforce is 98 percent male. The Facilities Services staff directory on the College website reflects this reality.

Supervisors related to maintenance and repair (landscape services, plumbing, electrical, heating and ventilation, carpenters/painters/locksmiths) are all male. In addition, the managers of Energy and Technology, the Central Heating Plant, Furniture Distribution and the Maintenance Projects were also all male. Only one supervisor and one manager listed in Facilities Services were female. They are in charge of waste management and support services, respectively.

Meanwhile, the gender balance in traditionally female occupations like nursing, office administration and bookkeeping has remained nearly constant from 1970 to 2013. Similarly, all seven nurses at the College's Parton Center for Health and Wellness are women.

"Women are clustered in the same occupations today as they were back in 1970," said Cary Brown of the Vermont Commission on Women. "We still have cultural ideas about what are appropriate jobs for women and what are appropriate jobs for men."

Though occupational segregation among staff is clearly present at the College, annual reviews of salary data by the College's Human Resources department report there is no gender-bias in payroll.

Occupational Segregation and the Pay Gap: The Bigger Picture

While Title IX ensures men and women in the same position receive the same salary, occupational segregation may be responsible for the existing pay gap between men and women in Vermont. The pay gap is often exacerbated

by career advancement opportunities being prioritized for male heads of households over women. This dilemma presents itself to staff and faculty alike.

According to the "Change the Story" report, female-dominated occupations are less likely than male-dominated occupations to pay median annual wages above \$35,000. This is the minimum salary required to meet the "basic needs of an individual" based on a market-based projection of living costs by the Vermont Joint Fiscal Office.

In addition, women who work full-time are more likely to struggle financially as single providers; 50 percent of these women are employed in fields where the median annual salary is below \$35,000, compared to 13 percent of men.

"When we look at the education that young women are choosing, the apprenticeships, the college majors, we are not seeing the potential for a change in these patterns without taking some concrete steps."

CARY BROWN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE VERMONT COMMISSION ON WOMEN

\$72,000.

According to reports from "Change the Story," there are about 16,595 single mothers with financially dependent children currently living in Vermont. Of these women, about one-third live in poverty despite the fact that they are

working full-time jobs.

"When 43 percent of women working full-time are not meeting their basic needs, that's a big problem," Director of Vermont's Women Fund Meg Smith told VPR. "Women who are a single-parent household are nine times more likely to live in poverty."

Given these statistics, another Catch-22 scenario emerges. Women in Vermont, even when working full-time, are likely to rely on a male's income to support their family. If males consistently make more than females, it also makes economic sense to prioritize the male partner's job.

This may give the male head of household more influence in household decisions that negatively affect women's opportunities for career advancement. A woman's potential to earn more money, possibly more than her spouse, is limited by the pay-gap created through occupational segregation.

This Catch-22 is not limited to women making less than \$35,000 a year who are more likely to rely on a spouse's earnings. Female professors at the College report facing a similar dilemma.

"Spousal/partner employment remains a central challenge in faculty recruitment and retention, and one that may have a disproportionate effect on our ability to attract and retain female faculty at all levels," according to the 2008 Task Force report.

To address this, the College is a mem-

ber of the Academic Career Network, an organization that offers job networking in academia, and extends support of the Career Services Office to assist faculty spouses and partners in finding employment.

Yet, the data suggests this is not enough. According to the 2008 report, female faculty members were six times more likely than male colleagues to cite spousal employment as a reason for resignation.

In terms of parental leave, the College offers a generous 12-week paid leave for fac-

ulty. For staff, paid parental leave is just six weeks – though a considerable boost from the allotted 3 weeks before 2009.

The College's current policies appear to be inadequate in relieving the double burden of work-family roles placed on women, for both faculty and staff. What, if anything, can the College do to help address occupational segregation, a problem that is widespread across Vermont?

In the state as a whole, advocates for women recognize that solid changes must be made to address this segregation.

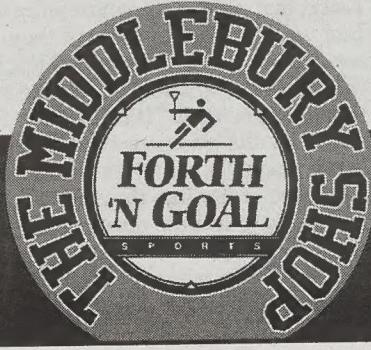
"When we look at the education that young women are choosing, the apprenticeships, the college majors, we are not seeing the potential for a change in these patterns without taking some concrete steps," Brown remarked to VTdigger.

	Women's Salaries	Men's Salaries	Percentage Difference
Middlebury College	57,300	109,200	91%
Amherst College	62,800	112,700	79%
Davidson College	58,400	91,900	57%
Swarthmore College	53,500	83,900	57%

COURTESY CHANGE THE STORY

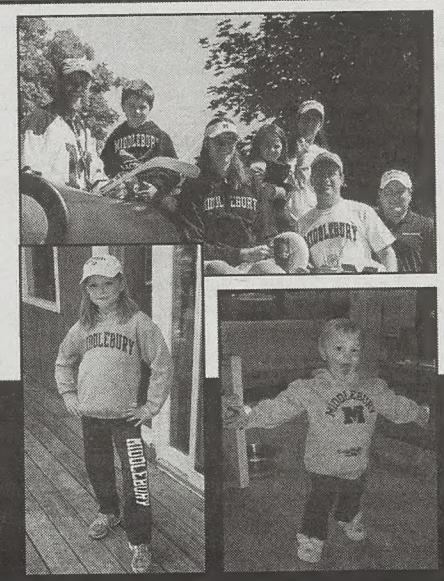
At liberal arts colleges across the nation, female alumni often earn less than male alumni. The disparity is particularly notable at the College.

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OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

The Middlebury Campus

MA

Institutions are shaped by inherited traditions and policies, preserved by both codification and memory. The editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus* is comprised of students who typically serve from two to three years. With such a rapid turnover rate, in the absence of clear codification of standards,

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

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The content written within the Opinions pages may cause emotional distress. Please exercise discretion.

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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there is limited institutional memory. This year, when conversations regarding race, identity, privilege, political correctness and free speech – and the many ways in which these topics intersect – came to the forefront, we had only vague policies to guide us in difficult decisions regarding what to print. We were admittedly unprepared to deal with these issues and scrambled to address them thoughtfully.

These conversations, while important and long overdue, proved divisive and *The Campus'* Opinions section often served as the battleground. We want to revisit our policies and clarifying our standards moving forward. We hope to become a space that better enables productive discourse – a critical component of our school's progress toward inclusivity. We won't accomplish this overnight, but we have ideas on how to begin to build stronger foundations for this paper moving forward.

We plan to re-evaluate our criteria for Opinions submissions over the summer and present our thoughts on an updated policy in the fall. Our current policies have, both directly and indirectly, failed to establish a section that reflects the diverse voices of our student body. We also can do more to improve the quality of submissions and we intend to work more closely with writers on how to develop better arguments in an op-ed. This will include an editor-writer mentorship program, in which writers will have the opportunity to ask editors questions as they write – and revise – their work. This one-on-one mentorship will not be limited to the Opinions section. Writers for all sections will have the opportunity to meet with designated editors before they write an article and strategize the best ways to gain information and craft a thoughtful piece. We will also offer writers the opportunity to do live edits with an editor, giving contributors a clearer understanding of the editing process. We hope that these programs will encourage students to write, and help them feel better equipped to do so.

Likewise, in order to increase our contact with the student body, we will in-

duce office hours with our editors. We hope that the opportunity for face-to-face interaction with our editors will help alleviate concerns that our paper is a faceless institution disconnected from the student body, and allow for concerns and perspectives to be shared with our board. The dates and times of our office hours will be announced in the fall.

At the heart of our plan is a push for a better quality newspaper. The issue of quality is twofold: the quality of one's writing and the quality of content. The latter has been subject of much debate across this campus and within our newsroom. We will work to reconcile our belief that a controversial opinion is better revealed in the light – rather than hidden in the dark

– with repeated calls from students to not gratuitously stir the pot. We know that some weeks, depending on the submissions we receive, a rather one-dimensional perspective on a given issue is presented. We'd like to introduce a new program in which the Opinions section invites students to write in on a given topic. A given theme will be announced two weeks in advance, and students will have the opportunity to write in with their thoughts. We will then publish several op-eds on the topic – perhaps five or six – that demonstrate a depth and breadth of opinion. We hope this program will create a more balanced Opinions section in which no single perspective dominates the conversation in a given week. We do not have all the answers yet, but we are working towards a more sound policy that allows all students to be heard without privileging any one perspective.

While we work to improve the quality of both the writing and the arguments presented in these pages, we ask the community to reflect on how we engage with arguments that we find wrong and even offensive. There is an undeniable shame culture that has formed around sharing unpopular opinions. While this too is a national phenomenon, it feels particularly personal on a small, intimate campus like ours. Controversial opinions are mocked

in public via Facebook statuses and Yik Yak, and those who have dared to voice an opinion outside of liberal confines are vilified and even threatened. While disagreement is inevitable – and, when engaged in respectfully, wholly productive – we do not want students to feel as though they are punished for sharing their perspectives. The comments section on our website particularly has historically been toxic and disrespectful. In an attempt to encourage thoughtful engagement rather than fliprant and spiteful retorts – and in line with previous arguments we have made about the moral hazard of anonymity – all commenters will be required to post with their name attached with confirmation through email or social media account.

Writers stand to benefit from the wisdom of professionals within our community. In addition to office hours with *The Campus* editors and one-on-one mentorship programs, we intend to work with published writers and academics on Middlebury's campus – including Bill McKibben, Sue Halpern and Susan Greenberg – who can host workshops on writing and publishing in the digital age. We hope that the training and advice of these well-respected professionals – all of whom have dealt with criticism for the opinions articulated in their writing – will empower students to share their perspectives and engage confidently with those who disagree with them. They can also teach us all a thing or two about writing a good article.

This year has been challenging for all of us. Students, many of whom already feel marginalized on this campus, have been alienated by this publication. This board has grappled with the responsibility of our platform and our believed journalistic imperative to recognize a diversity of opinions. We must continue to engage in these difficult, often painful, conversations. While we will not shy away from discord and controversy, *The Campus* will listen to your concerns and work towards being a more responsible vehicle for debate. Here is to a thoughtful 2017.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DISAGREEING

During my second week at Middlebury, I was eating dinner in Ross with a group of students from my first-year hall discussing politics. I made a provocative comment about libertarianism, when someone disagreed with me. Ready to engage in a lively debate, I was startled when another student chimed in, suggesting that we shift the conversation away from politics to something less controversial.

READER OP-ED

Iana Gratch '16 is the SGA President from Larchmont, NY

Everyone at the table nodded in agreement.

Wanting to remain bright-eyed and optimistic about Middlebury, I attributed this seeming unwillingness to engage in debate to the fact that it was the second week of school. Okay, I thought, I get it. We're just getting to know each other, so we should keep things from getting too combative. But deep down, I was surprised. What was the point of college if not to challenge my own beliefs and expand my understanding of the world, in part through debate with my brilliant peers? Did I make a mistake in coming to a New England liberal arts school where there was an eerie sense of pristine stillness that masked the tensions looming beneath the surface?

This year, tensions surfaced. And serving as President of the Student Government Association afforded me an opportunity to think hard and often about the nature of the tensions, as well as that which comes more naturally to me as a Psychology major: how we as a community respond to these tensions.

It takes only one quick click on our smartphones to see that Yik Yak is home to some of the most involved debate surrounding campus tensions. And that makes sense – why attribute your name to a thought that is controversial, complicated, or thorny when you don't have to? Certainly, there are circumstances in which anonymity is important and must be maintained. But it is almost as if anonymous and malicious arguments on Yik Yak have replaced thoughtful and respectful debates both inside and outside the classroom.

I have often felt at a loss for words this year. Whether in Senate meetings, in interviews for *The Campus*, in Community Council meetings, in classes or in town halls, too often, I withheld my opinion for fear of how it would be received. It isn't worth it, I thought. I noticed similar trends in peers at Senate meetings in which Senators remained quiet on controversial issues only to approach me after to express that they felt unable to dissent on the Senate floor where their every word is recorded and made public by the minute-taker and *Campus* correspondent. In all likelihood, this is a challenge with which our entire generation will continue to grapple—technological advancement presents many difficulties, as we are all ever aware of the possibility of facing public and permanent shaming, trolling, or critique for expressing unpopular opinions.

But the alternative we are left with is not exactly utopian either. The less we are able to engage in thoughtful disagreement with those from whom we ideologically differ, the more we isolate ourselves and the more fragmented our community becomes.

This past fall, we had a series of town hall meetings that culminated in a community

wide discussion in a very packed Mead Chapel. Indeed, the meeting was flawed according to some, a toxic space according to others. Still, the very fact that Mead Chapel was full of students, faculty, and staff members indicates that our community wants to engage. And so we must continue to show up—and not just when a dramatic controversy erupts. We cannot afford to shy away from tensions on campus by reverting to Yik Yak or the anonymous comments section on *The Campus* website. We will not benefit from making the mistake that I did, believing that it is better to remain silent than to create an uncomfortable disagreement. We have the luxury of living together in a small and vibrant community – why would we not throw ourselves into the fray completely, jumping at every opportunity to learn from our peers and mentors through dynamic, imperfect, and challenging conversations that often result in disagreement?

Sure, we may not have perfected the art of conversation yet. We may not have the skills necessary to argue while remaining calm and compassionate. We definitely, as a community, do not have all the answers – not to the actual issues that plague our community nor to the best ways of working through them in the aftermath. But I believe that we are ripe for the answers. In the words of one of my favorite poets, Rainer Maria Rilke: "The point is to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer." The best way I know to live the questions, to live everything, is through honest disagreement. Please, consider joining me in this endeavor: let's agree to do much more disagreeing.

LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

In many ways, this year at Middlebury felt like occupying a community divided. Three different events this weekend composed an especially ironic display of Middlebury's climate: Derby Day, a symposium entitled "Activists, Allies and Accomplices: Responses to Racism Today" and the Distinguished Men of Color (DMC) Block Party. At Derby Day, mainly white students

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Claire Abbadi '16 is the Editor-in-Chief

boarded buses to an off-campus party, wearing summer dresses and big hats — paying tribute to a horse race and, de facto, to southern culture. I was one of those students. The symposium, which most students in this community could benefit from attending, addressed the issues of class and race that were exemplified all too well at Saturday's Derby-themed affair. The Block Party, a spring tradition, included a basketball tournament, BBQ and music performances. The racial split between each event was stark. On this day, I reflected on this interesting and ironic way to end my time at Middlebury as we continue to be divided as a community, with our social life more stratified than ever.

This isn't the only irony that I have confronted this year. Another irony that I have grappled with is my own identity as a black woman and my position as the head of an institution deemed racist and classist by many. As Editor-in-Chief, I have spent all year defending *The Campus* newspaper, our policies and the importance of our role. That was my job. It isn't my job anymore. Now, I am going to give you my perspective as an individual and not as a representative

of this institution, because components of my identity have informed how I have approached the role.

Being a person of color has complicated my role as Editor-in-Chief. Submissions that contained inflammatory, at times offensive content affected me on a deeply personal level, as they did for many other students within this community. As a woman of color, I have been outraged by the suggestions of certain submissions. I think that at times my silence has been perceived as an implicit endorsement of these ideas when that could not be further from the truth. What differentiates me from other students on the campus, including other students of color, is that my role as Editor-in-Chief required that I choose content objectively, without letting my emotions cloud my judgement. This means that I have approved the publication of content that I vehemently disagree with and have had to live with those decisions. These choices were not made indiscriminately. I agonized over them; however, I felt compelled to prioritize my responsibilities as an elected leader over the indignation I felt.

Those decisions defined the perceptions of my editorship. As our community discussed race, identity and privilege, it became clear that my role in these conversations would have to be as a representative of the newspaper, not as an independent person. The unique perspective I offer as a POC was not acknowledged, and it never was. Instead, my decisions and policies were attacked. As one student wrote to me, "I continuously expect more from you and am continuously disappointed ... I don't expect change, but I do expect that a sentiment like this will stick with you and hopefully make you think twice in the future." I was painted as someone unsympathetic to

the minority experience on campus, even though I am a minority. My experience and my perspective was invalidated, I believe, for a number of reasons — including my role in the newspaper. I am not telling you this so you will feel sorry for me. I don't need sympathy. What I do need, however, is the acknowledgement that my experience, while not all that unique, is indicative of a broader issue — a community that has developed very strict standards for what it means to be "black" and what it means to be "white." And, for another subset, what it means to be a "white ally." These standards have undoubtedly been imposed by both sides. I have been called "so white" by other students — including friends — numerous times. The problematic implication of this is that whiteness is associated with certain traits and that we have developed a narrow definition of what it means to be "white" or "black."

The unfortunate and inevitable outcome of these narrow definitions has been the radicalization of conversations surrounding race. Those who do not fully embrace the stances and objectives of one side have been excluded from the conversation. I, too, have felt this exclusion at times. Responses toward my decisions ranged from pedantic and hard-to-grasp to aggressive and emotional. If we want to be a truly inclusive community, then we need to reassess our constructions of "whiteness" and "blackness" and leave room for more fluid interpretations of identity.

Despite my plea for a community-wide shift, I am also complicit in the construction of the culture we have developed. Even though I stand by the editorial decisions we made, I still struggle to reconcile the expectations of my role with the fact that a student told me that I had personally

made them feel unsafe and that my decisions have made them not want to leave their room. How do you come to terms with that? The guilt I feel, however, stands alongside the duty to lead this paper, which serves our entire student body and reflects the climate of our campus — as disappointingly narrow-minded as it can sometimes be.

Though I am leaving Middlebury, my hope for this community is that it will continue to embody the progressive spirit so fundamental to its ethos — to push boundaries and set new standards, but while doing so, to recognize the humanity of those around us. Somewhere along the way, our anger and indignation drove us further apart. We imposed one-size-fits-all definitions of identity on one another and forgot that, in the words of Ta-Nehisi Coates, "We should seek not a world where the black race and white race live in harmony, but a world in which the terms black and white have no real political meaning."

Middlebury will continue to grapple with these issues — the insidious nature of privilege at this school, class and racial divides — but my hope is that while we approach these issues, we remember that a great deal of nuance guides our thinking. I hope we continue to have these difficult, but important conversations. With that, I wish the best of luck to Ellie Reinhardt and Christian Jambora as they take the helm of *The Campus*. To my editors, you know the respect and admiration I have for each of you.

Abbadi, out.

Activists, Allies and Accomplices

wide approach to issues of diversity, access and equity, and she asked us

"The work of being allies, accomplices and activists today matters. The work is serious. We are honored and fortunate to work among you, and with you, for all of us."

of student activism and its successes including the Middlebury Ferguson Action Group, which students created in response to the death of Michael Brown. We heard from student activists from Middlebury College, as well as the Middlebury Institute for International Studies at Monterey (MIIS), and learned how they have approached the idea of allies, or accomplices, at each institution.

Saturday morning at the symposium, President Patton provided an overview of where we have been, and where we might go in the coming year, stressing that inclusion as an everyday ethic is an ongoing process. Her thoughtful remarks were followed by keynote speaker Rinku Sen, the president and executive director of Race Forward: The Center for Racial Justice Innovation and the publisher of the award-winning news site Colorlines. Her talk stressed the importance of transforming the way we talk about race from something that is individual, intentional and overt to something that is systemic, unconscious and hidden.

This lecture was followed by a panel of student activists including graduate students, current Middlebury students and students from Bowdoin College, who discussed their work and challenges, and a second keynote address by Dr. Rashawn Ray of the University of Maryland on racial violence, activism and the carceral state. The symposium concluded with a panel on "Historical, Cultural and Activist Critiques of Race, Difference and Power," which was moderated by Associate Profes-

sor of History Bill Hart and featured faculty from Middlebury College and MIIS, as well as Syracuse University and Smith College.

The conversations of this year have reinforced to us what Swarthmore Professor of Sociology Sarah Willies-LeBreton recently wrote: "The protests of today are no less serious than the ones of 50 years ago when students protested for civil rights... Nor are they any less serious than the protests of 30 years ago when students protested against investments

"Inclusion of all kinds seems like a difficult goal in a community like ours, which is often perceived by many of our members as homogeneous."

READER OP-ED

Baishakhi Taylor, AIM Cofacilitator
Roberto Lint Sagarena, AIM Cofacilitator

Miguel Fernandez '85, AIM Liaison to Advisory Group on Disability, Access, and Inclusion

social media, in private discussions and in public forums.

When Middlebury chose Laurie Patton to become its first female president, we also chose a president who is unequivocally committed to making diversity and inclusion a part of the campus's everyday ethics. To that end, she appointed the Alliance for an Inclusive Middlebury (AIM) last December to promote a college-

to lead the group. Last weekend, we hosted our inaugural symposium.

The symposium, which focused on "Activists, Allies and Accomplices: Responses to Racism Today," began by exploring the current idea that "ally" has become an identity disembodied from any real understanding of support and that "accomplice" is a more powerful term. An accomplice is a person who is bound to a commitment or movement by becoming complicit, whereas an ally can be temporary or step back from the work at will. This past fall's town hall meetings emphasized the need for white accomplices in the fight for racial justice, and numerous colleagues from the community stepped up.

We also highlighted the importance

in companies that did business with South Africa. Today, students protest for greater diversity in the student body, on the faculty, among staff and in the curriculum." The work of being allies, accomplices and activists today matters. The work is serious. We are honored and fortunate to work among you, and with you, for all of us.

CREATING A MAP: REFLECTIONS FROM LATE SPRING

I'm fond of metaphors. One that you might have heard me say (perhaps more than a few times) is that Middlebury is, in many ways, like a newly complex ecosystem. This year, we have begun to map this ecosystem together.

How did we start creating this map? By getting to know each other. I have spent much of my first year as your pres-

strategic planning process. In the fall, you'll be invited to participate in a survey to share your vision for Middlebury's future. Bring your concerns forward — and your solutions, too. We'll be asking key questions: How do we at Middlebury define and redefine what is "global" in 2016? How do we integrate environmental literacy into the liberal arts? How can liberal learning work in the world outside the classroom? How can we create alliances across differences in the classroom, and engage in true conversations

that people want to be a part of? How can we be confident in our own expression in a world where social media exposes us to more public scrutiny and response than ever before? How can we make sure all students feel welcome at Middlebury? We want your answers to these questions, so be thinking about these strategic questions as you move into the summer. Our strategic plan will help make Middlebury more of the Middlebury you need it to be.

What you need Middlebury to be is, in part, increasingly reflective of our newly complex ecosystem, and the complex global world that you live in: culturally and intellectually vibrant, with a curriculum that is more inclusive and engaging. This year, you've inspired changes to the culture and civilization requirement, and challenged us to make sure our faculty and staff are aware of the issues facing students in the classroom when it comes to having difficult conversations about difference. You've sensed we need

a place, a forum, a group of activist faculty, staff and students who can keep us focused, forward-looking and creative, and so you worked with us to create Alliance for an Inclusive Middlebury (AIM), whose leadership has emerged energetically, constructively and powerfully over the course of just four months. You've participated in the Advisory Group for Disability, Accessibility and Inclusion (AGDAI), and engaged consultants to improve our inclusive practices for those with disabilities. Beginning this past

April (and in honor of Gaypril), you have begun work on a four-part program to create a better daily life for lesbian, gay, trans and queer students, faculty and staff on campus.

You've launched greater efforts

to connect the world and the classroom through engaged learning opportunities such as MiddCORE and the Center for Social Entrepreneurship, and proposed next steps in a makerspace here on campus. This year, you've made changes in the SGA governance process and the Community Council process, and we are working together differently and more collaboratively as a result. You've created unique student spaces and resources for mental health, and built several new initiatives on resilience and mindfulness practices in daily life.

You've inspired these changes, and these changes are hopefully inspiring your presence — not just in the classrooms and the labs but across campus, whether in discussing the "good body"

in the Clifford symposium, or viewing Shakespeare's First Folio, or participating in a panel on climate justice, or listening to jazz, or attending an art exhibit or dance performance, or sports event — It's what makes our ecosystem healthy.

This has been an extraordinary year — and at times a challenging one. You've been brave, and bold, and patient and impatient. I've been witness to much that has been extraordinary, but I am most proud of the everyday acts I haven't witnessed. You've had hard conversations and ended up understanding each other better. You've had moments of historical reflection on the past and asked hard questions of the present. You've helped others come into their voices and found your own.

Keep in mind what the novelist George Eliot wrote when she said, "The growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts, and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully..." Another powerful writer, Kimberlé Crenshaw, reminds us that another way of living faithfully is by focusing on the empowerment of others. She has written that the empowerment of black women is the empowerment of the whole community. This principle works in many ways, I believe: the empowerment of people to develop and share their own voices is the empowerment of the whole community.

You make Middlebury what it is. Your passions and energy and talents, your commitment to community, and how you express your individual gifts, have created this year, and will create our future. For those of you who will not be on campus this coming fall, your presence will be missed, and I celebrate you sharing your gifts with the world. For those who will leave for the summer and be back in September, you too will be missed, and I can't wait to keep drawing this map with you. We are just getting started.

NOTES FROM OLD CHAPEL

Laurie Patton is the President of the College

ident getting to know you, through office hours, meditation at Mead, lunches in the dining halls, chance encounters on a campus walkway, cheering on the Panthers or talking at the Student Symposium. I've gotten to know Middlebury and have learned how it's both small and large in terms of culture, nation, race, religion, sexuality, gender expression, and political perspectives. I've learned that Middlebury students are the most constructive, engaged, and resourceful students I have ever worked with — you are the kind of students who bring your concerns forward, and who bring solutions with you at the same time.

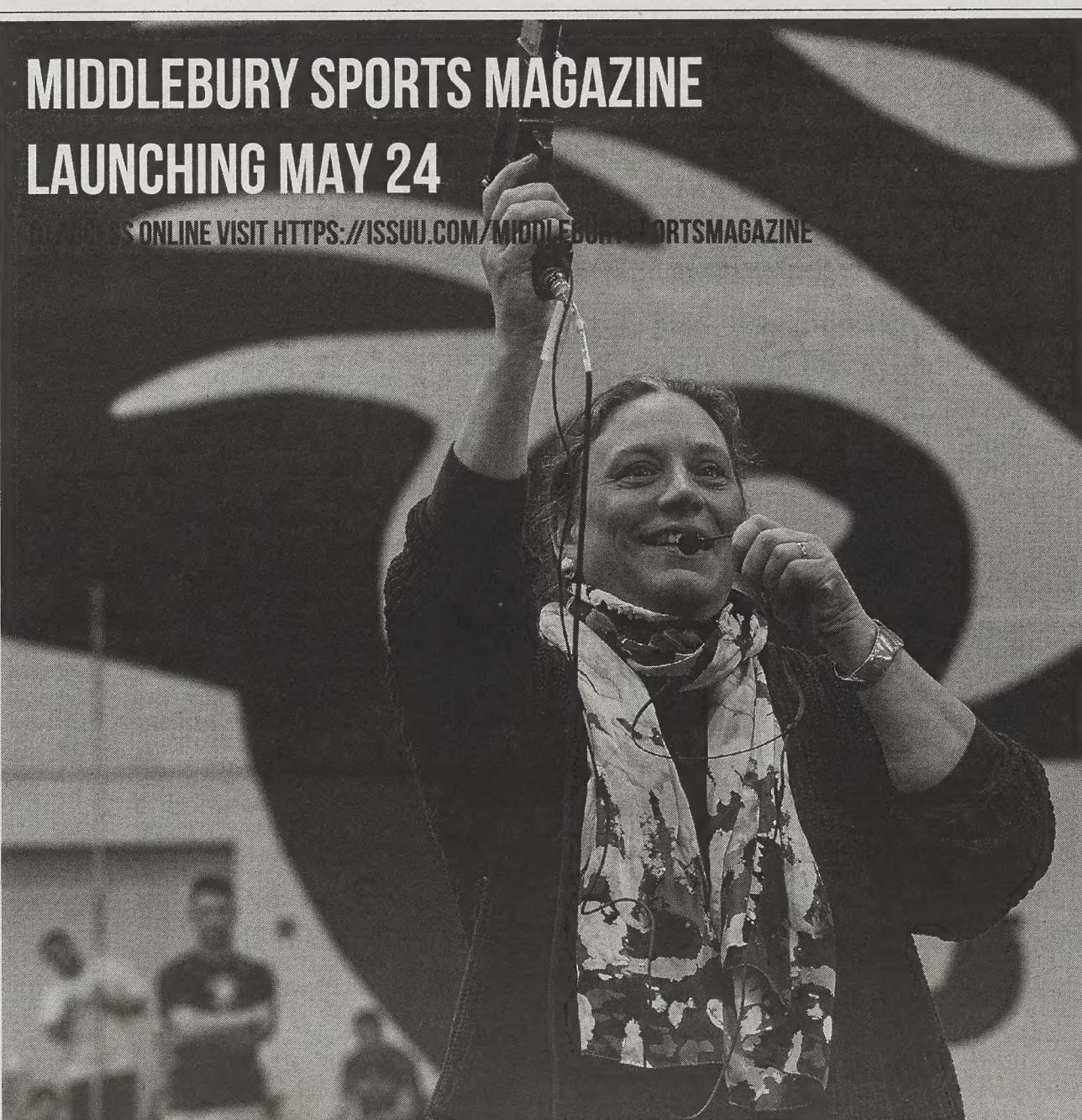
And you've gotten to know me, and how much I value the ideals of authenticity, transparency, kindness and consideration. We fall short of these ideals every day, but they are important to strive for. You have learned that I love poetry, and dogs, and communication, and starting the day with a good swim. I hope you have also learned how much I admire and at times am truly in awe of what you accomplish as students here.

You — the students — are at the center of this ecosystem. Your input is a crucial part of our work as we begin our

"This has been an extraordinary year — and at times a challenging one. You've been brave, and bold, and patient and impatient."

MIDDLEBURY SPORTS MAGAZINE LAUNCHING MAY 24

ONLINE VISIT [HTTPS://ISSUU.COM/MIDDLEBYSORTSMAGAZINE](https://issuu.com/middlebrysportsmagazine)



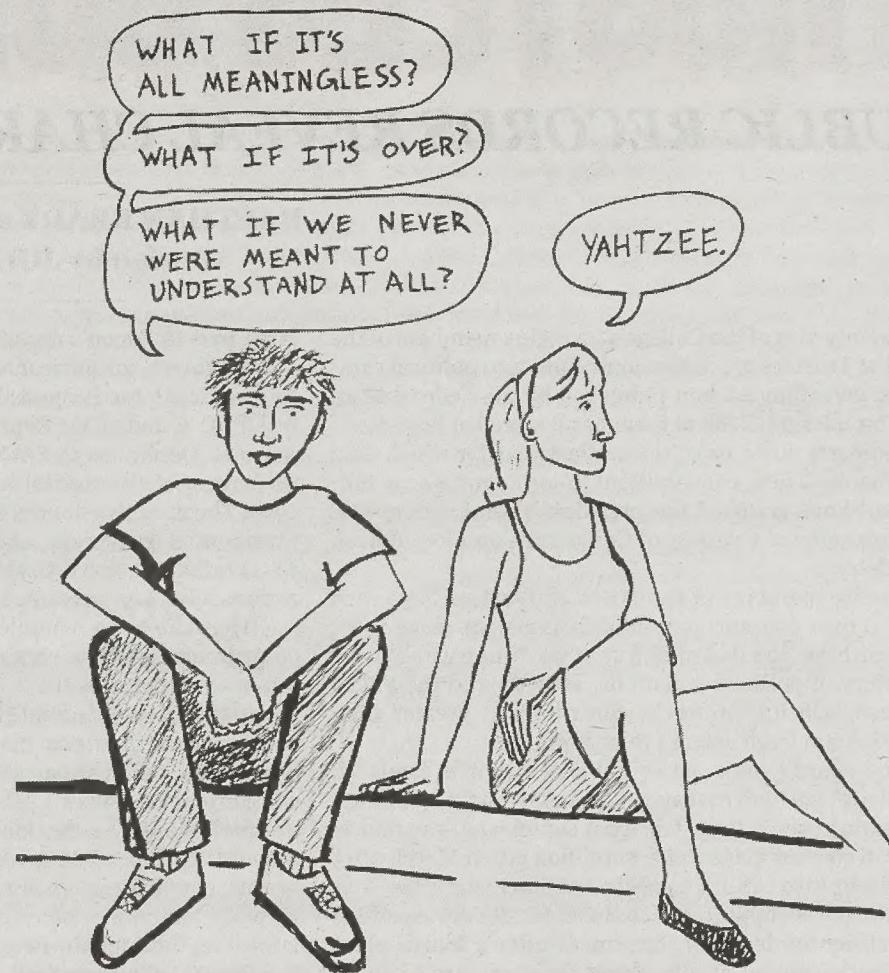
CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

College Cats Abroad by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily

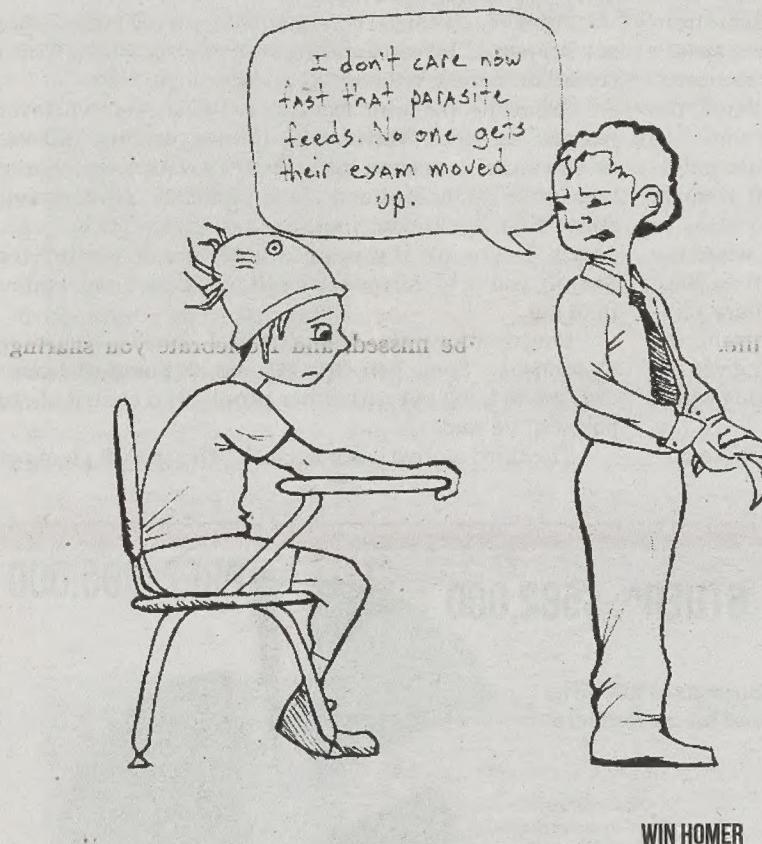


EMILY COX

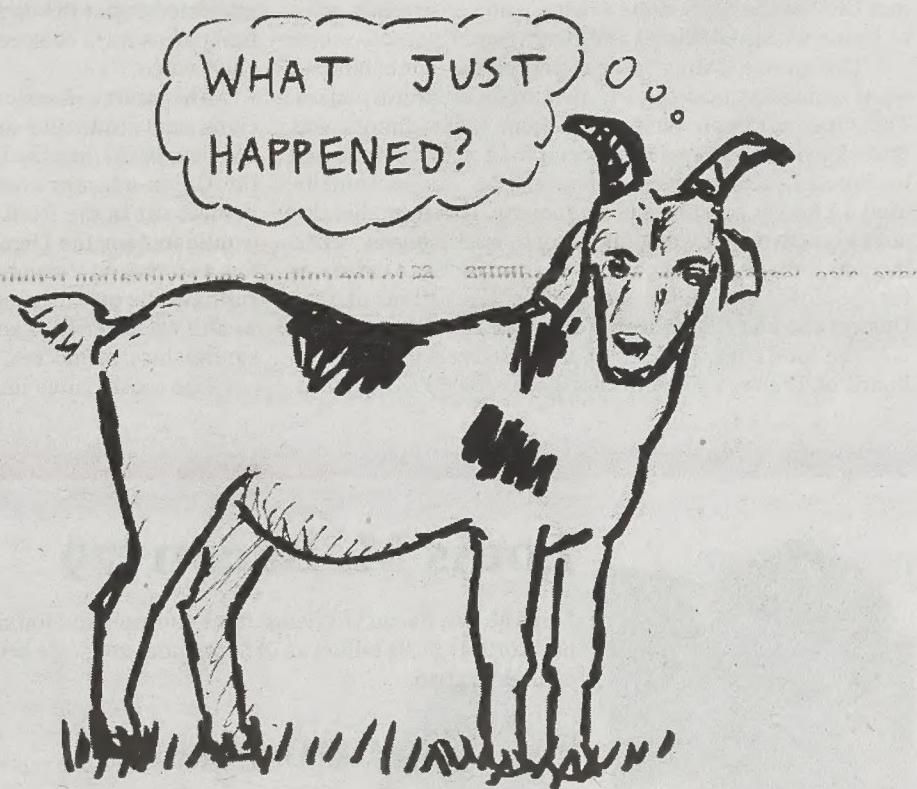


BMC

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The Home Stretch



Best wishes & good luck to all of the graduating seniors! ☺

KAITLYND COLLINS

TRUSTEES DONATE MILLIONS

PUBLIC RECORDS REVEAL CHARACTER OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT

By ETHAN BRADY and EMILIE MUNSON

Design by JULIA HATHEWAY

Twenty-two of the College's 32 voting members of the Board of Trustees are active contributors to political campaigns, according to data published by the Federal Election Commission. Each of them has donated at least \$200 to candidates since 1997, the earliest year for which data is available. Their contributions total about \$4.36 million and have financed the presidential and congressional campaigns of a variety of Democratic and Republican candidates.

Twelve members of the Board of Trustees have each donated over \$15,000 to political campaigns since 1997, and four have donated over \$150,000. Ten trustees have no history of political donations, according to the F.E.C. database, which only tracks contributions greater than \$200 that are large enough to be itemized.

The board's most active political donor is Louis M. Bacon, a hedge fund manager who has given \$3.25 million in donations since 1997. His most significant donation in the 2016 election cycle was a \$1 million gift in March 2015 to Right to Rise U.S.A., a political action committee — or "super PAC" — supporting Jeb Bush. Mr. Bush suspended his presidential bid on February 20 after a fourth-place finish in the South Carolina Republican primary.

The five trustees who donate the most money to political causes primarily give to Republican candidates and committees. The one exception is Garrett M. Moran, former CEO of the Blackstone Group, who consistently gives to Democratic candidates and party committees.

The twelve donors whose individual contributions were under \$15,000 tend to give to Democratic causes. The most common recipient among these donors was Barack Obama's presidential campaign in 2012, followed by that in 2008. On average, these twelve trustees contributed \$3,540 to presidential campaigns. These smaller donors also gave, on average, \$5,043 to other causes, which include individual campaigns of down-ticket candidates for the House and Senate and party organizations like the Democratic and Republican National Committees.

The total contributions of all 22 active donors on the Board of Trustees went primarily to super PACs, due in

large part to Bacon's donations to the League of Conservation Voters, an environmental conservation PAC, and to Americans for Responsible Solutions, a pro-gun control PAC founded by Representative Gabby Giffords of Arizona. Donations to PACs totaled \$2.86 million, about 66 percent of all contributions made by the trustees since 1997. The 22 active donors on the Board gave \$258,850 to presidential campaigns, about 6 percent of the total, and \$1.24 million to down-ticket campaigns and party organizations, about 29 percent.

The data were compiled by searching an individual contributor database on the F.E.C.'s website. Campaign finance law requires the F.E.C. to publicly disclose funds raised to influence federal elections. The F.E.C.'s database contains contributions made to individual candidates' campaigns, political party organizations, political action committees and super PACs.

Soft money — the kind can be given in unlimited amounts to super PACs, which do not coordinate directly with candidates — has played a role in elections only recently. The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, known as the McCain-Feingold bill after its sponsors in the Senate, eliminated all soft money donations to national party committees. But in 2010, the Supreme Court ruled in *Citizens United v. F.E.C.* that donations from corporations and unions constitute a form of free speech protected under the First Amendment. Because the donations are a form of speech, they cannot be regulated, the court ruled.

The court's decision has faced criticism from politicians and academics alike, including President Obama, who explicitly rebuked the ruling in his 2010 State of the Union address a week after it was issued, while the justices sat in the front row of the House chamber. Both candidates for the Democratic nomination, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, have called for overturning the ruling while on the campaign trail, saying that it gives the wealthiest Americans an outsize say in determining which candidates can succeed in federal elections.

The most visible impact of *Citizens United* is the crea-

tion of super PACs, according to Bertram Johnson, a professor of political science, who sees them as an unforeseen consequence of the decision.

"At that time the ruling had to do with nonprofit corporations," Johnson said. "People foresaw G.E. and Ford and Chrysler spending more money in campaigns. That has not happened. The ruling has caused spending to be reshuffled somewhat away from political parties and toward super PACs. These non-party organizations became, to some, a more advantageous vehicle to go through."

Only a tiny fraction of Americans actually contribute to political candidates, parties or PACs. In 2012, the percentage of the U.S. adult population who gave donations over \$200 was 0.53 percent. *The New York Times* reported in October 2015 that 158 families have provided nearly half of the early money for efforts to capture the White House during the 2016 presidential race.

The *Times* found that donors are overwhelmingly white, rich, older and male, and most made their fortunes by working in the financial industry. The trend among Middlebury's trustees largely reflects these findings. The five trustees who donate the most to political causes are men working in finance, either as fund managers or CEOs of capital management groups.

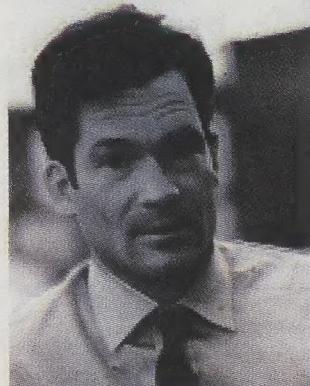
Johnson outlined three motivators for donating that are supported by research, surveys and data by political scientists: access, networking and ideology.

"Some people want access to politicians for whatever reason," he said. "Maybe they have a personal interest or an employer-related interest. They want to be able to meet with candidates and elected officials. There is evidence that if you contribute you are more likely to get access — certainly if you buy a ticket to a fundraiser for \$1,000, you're in the room with the candidate, more often than not."

Contributions also have a social benefit, according to Johnson. "Some people contribute to politics because they get to hang out with other people who contribute to politics," he said.

The third motive is ideological. "This makes plenty of

Louis M. Bacon '79



Louis Moore Bacon is a hedge fund manager and founder of Moore Capital Management LLC. His net worth is \$1.81 billion as of September 2015. He became a trustee in 2006, and his current term expires in 2016.

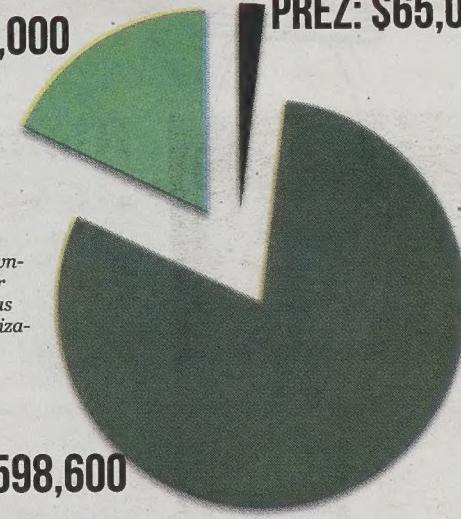
\$3,245,600 total

Top Five Largest Donations:

- \$1,000,000 to Right to Rise U.S.A. in March 2015
- \$850,000 to League of Conservation Voters in October 2004
- \$500,000 to Restore Our Future PAC in February 2011
- \$100,000 to Americans for Responsible Solutions PAC in July 2014
- \$48,000 to McCain Victory Fund in June 2008

OTHER*: \$582,000

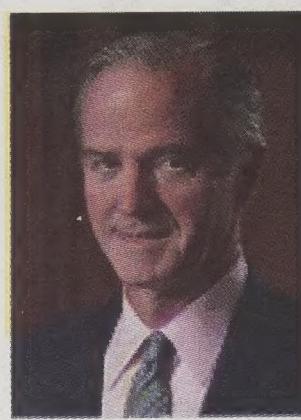
PREZ: \$65,000



PAC: \$2,598,600

PREZ: \$14,600

PAC: \$5,000



Garrett M. Moran '76

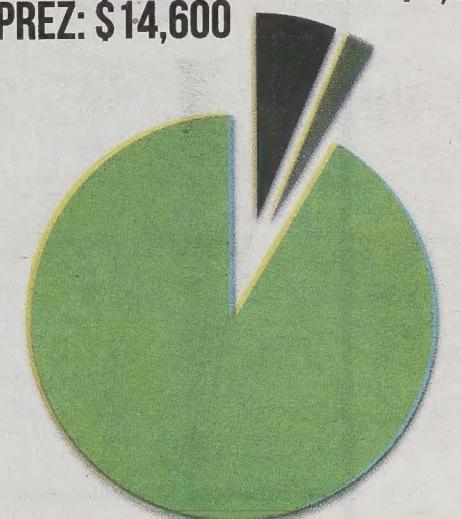
Moran is the president of Year Up, Inc., a non-profit aimed at empowering urban young adults with skills to help them access professional careers and higher education. He formerly worked for the Blackstone Group, a private equity firm. Moran became a trustee in 1997, and his current term ends in 2020. He lives in Greenwich, Conn.

\$228,099 total

Top Five Largest Donations:

- \$32,400 to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee in 2014
- \$20,000 to the Democratic National Committee in 2012
- \$10,000 to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee in 2011
- \$9,500 to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee in 2008
- \$5,000 to the Woolf Victory Fund in 2014*

OTHER: \$208,499



*Moran made several donations of this amount. This is his most recent.

**In these graphs, "other" includes down-ticket campaigns for House and Senate, as well as party organizations like the D.N.C. and R.N.C.*

ACCESS TO POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

sense when you think of all the people who are contributing \$25 to Bernie Sanders," Johnson said. "Clearly those people are contributing not because they expect a policy outcome. They are in it for an ideological reason — they believe in Bernie and they believe in his message."

This trend continues for larger donors. "You don't find people like the Koch brothers contributing millions of dollars just because they think the Koch corporations are going to do better," Johnson said. "Actually, that doesn't make financial sense. You can get access with a \$2,700 contribution — you don't need \$3 million. You do that because you believe passionately in those issues."

Donors who want access to politicians for the purposes of advancing their policy interests would likely donate to incumbent candidates without regard for political party, according to Johnson. But people who donate consistently to one party tend to do so for ideological reasons — they agree with that political party's agenda.

"I think we're seeing evidence of that here," Johnson said. "I suppose one's ideology has a lot to do with all the decisions one makes. If you're in a position where the fiduciary responsibility of an institution is distant from an ideological agenda, then I suppose it's less likely. I don't think it's particularly likely that, in most decisions affecting the College, there's an ideological position to be taken

one way or another."

Ideological issues can sometimes arise in college governance, according to Johnson.

"Once in a while, there's an issue like divestment that takes on an ideological tone, and in that case I wouldn't be surprised if one's ideology figured into it a little bit," he said. "But the farther away an organization gets from politics, the less likely that is."

Chair of the Board of Trustees Marna C. Whittington said that politics do not influence trustees' decision-making or leadership.

"Politics is really not a topic we discuss," she said. "It doesn't really have a place in the board's activities."

Trustees are selected using a skills matrix and in consideration of factors like their commitment to the College, gender, race and year of graduation. Political ideology is not a factor in the selection of trustees.

"I don't know the political parties of our trustees," Whittington said. "I don't know what money they give."

Sometimes, however, trustees might use their political influence to help forward causes beneficial to the College, she said.

"We do support positions or legislation that we think would be beneficial to the College," Whittington said. "A trustee might use their political connections in some way

to promote — I don't recall this having been done but I think it entirely appropriate — a piece of legislation that was of particular interest to the College to get the College access to state their case."

The College does not regulate how the trustees spend their money during elections, according to Bill Burger, Vice President for Communications. This would constitute a "litmus test" of political ideology, he said.

"The last thing Middlebury should have, particularly in this era of coarse political divisiveness, is an ideological litmus test for students, faculty, staff or trustees," he said.

"What unites our community is our commitment to the institution and its mission. The members of the Board of Trustees are the ultimate stewards of that mission, and their collective commitment to it is unshakable."

While the College does not have any rules regarding how trustees can contribute to non-College related entities, it does evaluate the source of gifts made to the College, and the background of the individual giving those gifts.

"We would not accept a gift for a purpose that is at odds with Middlebury's mission, that would violate our principles of academic freedom, that would impose an unreasonable financial or administrative burden upon us, or that was the fruit of illegal activities," Burger said.

Steven B. Peterson '88



Peterson works for Peterson Company, a business aimed at developing communities in the Washington, D.C., area with a sense of place. Peterson joined the board in 2004, and his current term ends in 2019. He lives in Alexandria, Va.

\$186,433 total

Top Five Largest Donations:

- \$25,000 to the Republican National Committee in 2005
- \$10,000 to the National Republican Congressional Committee in 2008
- \$10,000 to the Republican National Committee in 2000
- \$5,000 to the Federal Victory Fund in 2006
- \$5,000 to the Good Government for American Committee in 2004

PREZ: \$7,500 **PAC: \$20,500**



Richard T. Scanlon '93



Richard Scanlon is a founder and partner of Marker LLC. He co-founded Crescent Point Group in 2003 and served as a Managing Partner until 2011. Scanlon lives in New York City. He became a trustee in 2013, and his current term expires in 2018.

\$152,100 total

Top Five Largest Donations:

- \$25,000 to Right to Rise U.S.A. in February 2015
- \$25,000 to Romney Victory Fund in June 2012
- \$20,000 to Republican National Committee in June 2012
- \$16,200 to N.R.S.C. in July 2014
- \$16,200 to N.R.S.C. in July 2014

PREZ: \$67,400 **PAC: \$25,000**



James Edward Virtue '82



Virtue is the Founder and CEO at MidOcean Partners, a private equity firm. He formerly served as the CEO at DB Capital Partners. He has been a trustee since 2005, and his current term ends in 2020. He lives in Rye, N.Y.

\$127,034 total

Top Five Largest Donations:

- \$30,800 to N.R.S.C. in April 2012
- \$25,000 to Romney Victory, Inc. in October 2012
- \$25,000 to Citizens for Good Government in March 2012*
- \$22,500 to Republican National Committee in October 2012
- \$10,000 to New York Republican Federal Campaign Committee in September 2012

PREZ: \$42,100 **PAC: \$7,584**



*He was refunded \$22,416.05 of this donation.

Alum Corrects Spinal Deformities in Ethiopia, Changes Lives

By Sarah Asch
Contributing Writer

When Dr. Rick Hodes '75 went to Ethiopia in 1985 to volunteer, he never dreamed he would spend the next 30 years of his life practicing medicine abroad. Yet he has spent the last three decades working in Ethiopia, pioneering new practices to help patients receive life-changing health care. Hodes returned to the College recently to help advise the global health program, and on Wednesday, May 4, presented a lecture entitled "Extreme Medicine: Practicing in Africa for 28 Years," a talk about his experience working as a doctor overseas.

"There's 50,000 people who need spine surgery for deformities in Ethiopia and I've done 500 surgeries," Hodes said about his medical work abroad. "So that means that we've done one percent of the surgeries that need to be done. It's very humbling to know how hard we've been working and we just never thought that we'd ever complete 500 surgeries, but now we're one percent done. So what does that mean? It means I have to train a lot of people."

Hodes currently serves as the Medical Director of Ethiopia for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, an NGO that provides humanitarian aid to Jews around the world. In addition, he runs a free clinic and volunteers at Mother Theresa's Mission and specializes in treating heart disease, spinal disease and cancer.

Among his projects is a program to help spinal patients receive corrective surgery. According to Hodes many Ethiopians suffer from spinal problems, in part due to tuberculosis, which can cause the spine to form a z-shape. Hodes first saw this kind of spinal deformity in two orphan boys in 1999. He could not get them affordable surgery, so he adopted them.

"I got this brilliant idea that I would

adopt them, add them to my health insurance and bring them down to Dallas, Texas and get them surgery that way," he said. In total, Hodes has adopted five male orphans needing surgery.

Until he adopted his first two children, Hodes was not aware of the spinal problems prevalent in Ethiopia. "Nobody had any idea there was a spine problem in Ethiopia," he said. "Then more and more patients kept on coming and so I started treating them. So then we started this program in 2006. In 2006 we got 20 patients; last year I got 445 new patients."

"I got this brilliant idea that I would adopt them, add them to my health insurance, and bring them down to Dallas, Texas, and get them surgery that way."

DR. RICK HODES '75

Hodes said that the best part of his job is saving lives by getting people the surgeries they need.

"When you see kids go to Ghana completely crooked and go through traction and surgery and come on back six months later on the path to healing, you've completely changed their lives."

The most difficult part, however, is its demanding nature.

"It's not occasional cases. It's like drinking from a fire hydrant. [The hardest part] is the very high volume. It's the intensity and the suffering that I'm dealing with all the time," Hodes said.

In order to help cope with the high intensity, Hodes takes regular breaks. "I try to duck out periodically because when I'm there I have to work very hard," he said. "Every month or six weeks, I just try to pop out somewhere where I can get a cheap airfare for four or five days and just relax."

Hodes also takes comfort in his faith. He identifies as a Modern Orthodox Jew and religion is a big part of his life, though he collaborates with a variety of religious organizations.

Hodes discussed the role religion

Hodes says that the program is still growing rapidly and is in the process of training Ethiopian surgeons so fewer patients will have to go abroad for surgery. Training doctors in Ethiopia will make the surgery more accessible and help reduce costs.



DR. RICK HODES

Dr. Rick Hodes '75 spoke about his 30 years of medical work in Ethiopia on May 4.

plays in his work. He gave the example of a Muslim woman who needed a tumor removed. Hodes ran into a doctor who specialized in the field at a synagogue in Minnesota.

"Because of that chance meeting I ended up bringing this woman to Minneapolis, Minnesota," he said. "So you have a Muslim orphan who was raised in a Catholic orphanage getting free surgery at St. Joseph's hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota by a Jewish doctor. It's a very nice story about the whole world working together."

Hodes came to the College to attend a retreat with faculty, staff and fellow alumni to discuss the global health program. Hodes believes the best way to learn about the field is from experience. "I want to see what other people have to say [at the retreat] but basically my philosophy is that people have to get their hands dirty," he said. "They have to go into the field and see what it's like."

In addition to advising the global

health program, Hodes has wisdom to share with students. When he graduated from the College with a degree in geography he had no idea what to do next, so he hitchhiked to Alaska before deciding on medical school.

Hodes believes students should take time off before their next step. "If you haven't had a year off yet then take a year off and look around and think about other things," Hodes said. "When you get older and you're looking back, nobody ever says, 'I'm really happy I went

straight through.'"

Hodes hopes his story will inspire students to spend their lives helping others. "I think there's great fulfillment in serving other people and dedicating your life to a cause bigger than yourself," he said. "When you have human lives depending on you day after day it really changes you and it makes you somehow a better person."

"When you see kids go to Ghana completely crooked and go through traction and surgery and come on back six months later on the path to healing, you've completely changed their lives."

DR. RICK HODES '75

straight through."

ANSWERS TO MAY 3 CROSSWORD

G	L	O	P	P	I	L	E	T	R	A	M	P
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Wellness Tip of the Week

By Wellness Leaders
Contributing Columnists

Know Yourself

A great way to manage stress is to know yourself. Once you know yourself, you can plan and act according to how you feel, making decisions that are the best for you in that moment. One way to get in touch with yourself is through journaling. Writing for your own benefit helps bring the emotional, mental and physical needs to the forefront of your thoughts. Sometimes, you may even discover simple, unexpected solutions to a difficult problem you've been encountering.

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May 12, 13 & 14

No rain checks or special orders.
In-stock items only. Other rules apply.

FORTH 'N GOAL SPORTS
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CORRECTION: In the May 5 article "Historic Parker Merrill Speech Competition Hosts Finals," Charlotte Massey '18.5 was misidentified as one of the winners of the 2016 Parker Merrill Speech Competition. The correct winner of the championship is Nia Robinson '19.

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

PTSD Play Brings Humor to Healing

By Elizabeth Zhou
Arts & Sciences Editor

Content Warning: Sexual Assault

What does it mean to combine laughter and healing? To be the “perfect” survivor? And what do clowns and “panda puppies” have anything to do with it? Trying to explain the *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* (PTSD) play to those who did not watch the show was challenging at best. Performed in Hepburn Zoo on Thursday, May 5, *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* is most simply described as a one-woman show about a community trying to heal after a sexual assault. In practice, it is a heartbreaking, hilarious and nuanced tale of survivors, perpetrators and bystanders – and the impacts of a system that has not done anyone any favors.

Post Traumatic Super Delightful is written and performed by Antonia Lassar, directed by

Angela Dumiao, stage-managed by Olivia Hull and further supported by a large team of women with varying backgrounds and skill sets. The fictionalized content stems from interviews with survivors, perpetrators, administrators, faculty and staff within the judicial system, and contains only two moments from Lassar’s real life. Director of Health and Wellness Education Barbara McCall, Molly McShane ’16 and Rebecca Coates-Finke ’16.5 worked to bring the play to campus through the Department of Justice Grant.

First, we meet the clown – a woman dressed in typical clothing who does a red nose and performs ridiculous antics against the backdrop of voiceovers and music. Each interlude featuring this nameless, smiling character is infused with humor and stark realizations. At one point, the clown walks out with a pile of placards and begins to dance to the pulsing beat of “Survivor” by Destiny’s Child. One by one, she shows the front side of each placard: “I’m pretty.” “I’m white.” “I’m a girl.” “I’m the perfect survivor.” (She pauses after “I’m white” to show off her most awkward and invigorating dance move yet, before pointing to the sign again in a hilarious, self-deprecating recognition of her own whiteness.) Flipping the cards to the opposite side, she continues: “I’m not like the angry ones.” “I cry but I’m not a mess.” “I hate my rapist.” “None of you know him so none of you doubt me.” “I’m also perfect.” “At rolling my tongue.”

The clown proceeds to roll her tongue repeatedly with impressive dexterity, causing the audience to laugh in bewilderment. The contrast between this hysterical demonstration and the difficult truths conveyed by the placards is strategic and intentional. Society has constructed the narrative of the “perfect survivor” of sexual assault – white, female, pretty and not too teary-eyed, among other characteristics – to the detriment of anyone who does not fit this elusive mold. The clown highlights these identity politics by presenting the situation in the most straightforward manner possible.

“The play takes the trauma and pain that may be associated with being a survivor and doesn’t try to define it, which is the purpose of the clown,” Coates-Finke explained. “It’s responding to the myth of the perfect survivor, the narrative of what one should do and how one should be. The clown takes away identity in some ways, and just gives space.”

Lassar, who drew on her own training as a clown to create *Post Traumatic Super Delightful*, sees great potential in healing through laughter.

“Clowning has been used in sacred rituals in some cultural contexts,” she said. “The sacred clown can be a presence that reflects back the truth of the community to the community, and mimics what you are doing. The laughter is a recognition that we do act like that, people do talk that way. Getting a group of people to laugh about

anything is to acknowledge that it exists. This is very powerful in a society that often invalidates survivors’ experiences.”

Though *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* was written largely for and by survivors, “Julia” – the fictional college student who was sexually assaulted by “Bryan” – never makes an appearance. Instead, her name comes up only in heated conversations featuring Lina, the school’s Title IX Coordinator, faculty member Dr. Margaret Roach and Bryan himself. Because it is a one-woman show, however, these conversations are enacted in a one-sided manner by the ever-evolving actress Lassar. Responses are implied rather than uttered aloud – and due to prominent changes in vocal and physical expressions, there is never confusion as to which character is speaking at any given moment.

Lina uses brash language cloaked in a thick Russian accent, with inflammatory statements such as, “But I push her [Julia]! You know, I can file complaint myself, but if she won’t let me use her name, it won’t go anywhere. I’m not upset. I am upset. I shouldn’t be upset, but this is my first case. I want justice!” In contrast, Margaret speaks with a stiff, high-strung formality, while Bryan’s light Texan drawl marks all of his confused, frustrated and painfully honest musings.

In featuring a variety of voices, *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* is a reflection of how sexual assault is perceived by – and therefore affects – an entire community.

“It allows us to think bigger about what the possibilities for awareness and activism are – the way that sexual assault affects people beyond the two or more people involved in one encounter,” McShane said. “It’s exciting both for people who are new to this conversation and for people who have been having this conversation for a long time.”

“Even if you think you don’t know a survivor and you think you don’t know a perpetrator, everyone is so connected and complicit and responsible and in a position to do something about sexual violence,” Coates-Finke said.

Through the dialogue, the audience becomes aware of the ways in which harmful narratives are reproduced.

“Bryan is not capable of rape. He is not a monster,” Margaret, his faculty advisor, says at one point.

“Julia does not look like a rape victim, okay? I had her in class. I know her.”

In response to the question “Do you think she was making it up?” Margaret states, “When you’re a drinker, there’s always the possibility you misremembered.”

Bryan’s pain and misconceptions also come to light through his interactions with Lina, the Title IX Coordinator who is adamantly advocating for Julia.

“I’m a freaking 21-year-old boy! I’m

going to have sex!” Bryan exclaims. “Rape is about power, it’s not about sex. What if this was just about sex?”

“I knew a guy in high school who got raped, real raped. And it’s really different. It’s like, I mean, he was bleeding. It was like on a walk home from a bar, and someone just appeared on the street. That’s rape. When you have to fight.”

Faced with these faulty assumptions – that drunk sex cannot count as rape, that only monsters are capable of rape and that rape victims all look and act a certain way – it becomes clear why sexual assault has become such a blurry and complicated issue, particularly on college campuses. *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* addresses this complexity partly by stating these misconceptions aloud in the first place, and partly by emphasizing the humanness inherent in everyone involved.

For instance, though Lina demonstrates care and compassion, she is not always great at her job. She pressures Julia to file a Title IX complaint in the name of “justice,” but then realizes, “What is the point of justice, if survivor will still be hurt?”

Meanwhile, Bryan is an accused perpetrator – yet his goofy demeanor and adoration for baby animal videos defy the common expectation that rapists cannot possibly be human. According to an anonymous feedback form submitted by an audience member, “It was tough to watch/hear from the perpetrator, because he was so nice ... Ugh. I guess it’s easier to think of

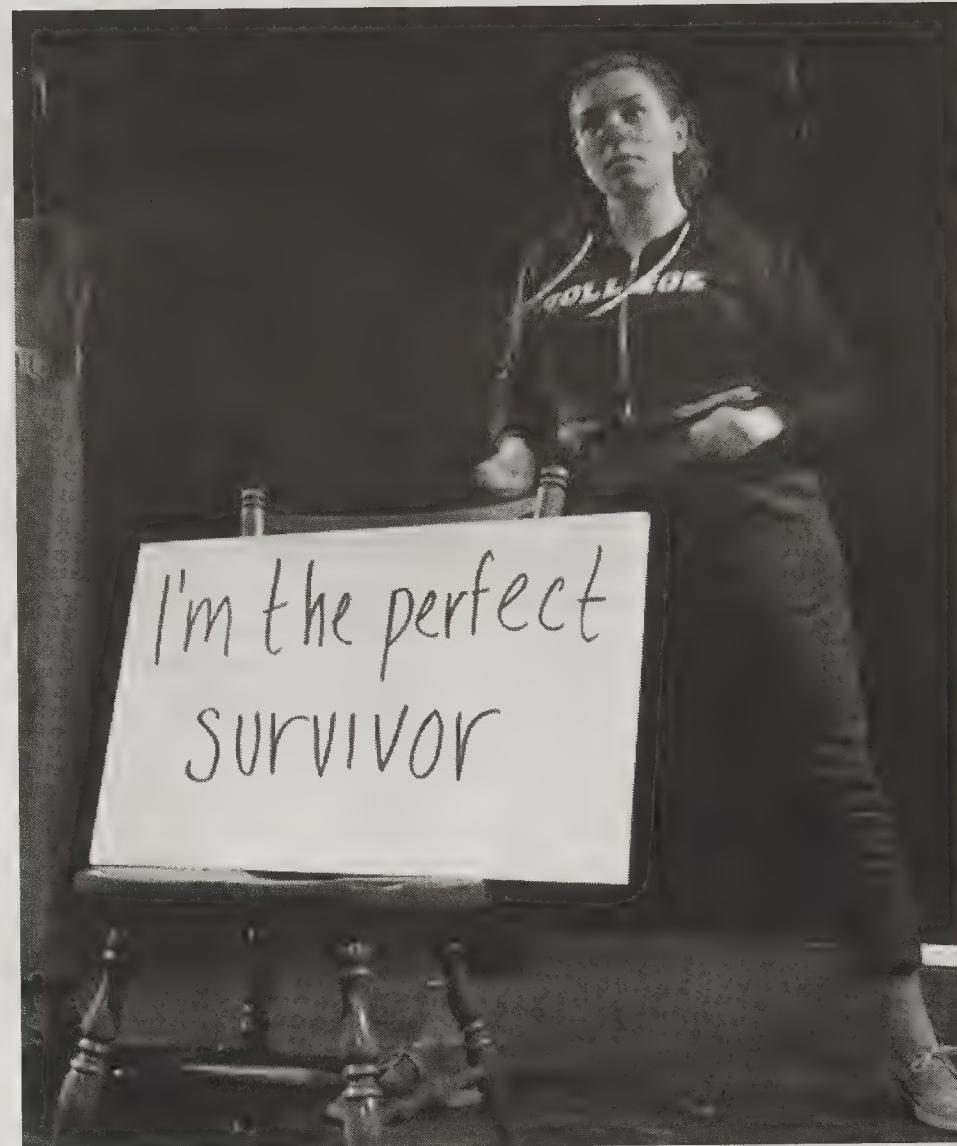
perpetrators as horrible evil people.”

Amid the stress of the judicial process, Bryan explains that all he can handle at this point is watching videos of “panda puppies” – a confession that drew huge, perhaps empathetic laughs from the crowd. Combined with his genuine, pleading questions – “I don’t know what I did! How could you not know if you raped someone? What’s non-consensual? What’s consensual?” – Bryan’s confusion becomes obvious. And in some ways, his actions become understandable. Like everyone else, Bryan is the product of a system, his thoughts shaped by a flawed education and harmful media messaging. All of these factors have led him to misunderstand what it means to hurt another individual and what it takes to be a “good” or a “bad” person.

The multifaceted characterization within *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* shows that nothing and no one exists in black-and-white terms. In all of its messiness, the story becomes more real, and thus more relatable. Above all, it proves that laughter can, indeed, serve as an unexpected catalyst for healing.

Perhaps the anonymous feedback from the audience phrased it best: “I am feeling heavy and light simultaneously,” a 21-year-old female wrote. “Trauma and sexual assault is not an easy topic to face, but I feel the load is always a bit lighter with the aid of the community and new tools.”

“As a survivor, I thought it was healing to see this performed in a serious and comedic way,” a 19-year-old male wrote. “I feel hopeful.”



ANTONIA LASSAR

The *Post Traumatic Super Delightful* clown unpacks the myth of the perfect survivor.

“Getting a group of people to laugh about anything is to acknowledge that it exists. This is very powerful in a society that often invalidates survivors’ experiences.”

—ANTONIA LASSAR
PLAYWRIGHT AND PERFORMER

DON'T
MISS
THIS

Jazz Showcase

Some of the College’s top jazz instrumentalists and singers will present selections from their term’s work. It’s a celebration of the music that’s been called “America’s National Treasure.” Free. 5/12, 8 P.M., MCA LOWER LOBBY

Skinner Releasing Technique & Composition Master Class

Laurel Jenkins, independent choreographer and MFA from the WAC/Dance department at UCLA, will teach Skinner Releasing Technique and Composition during this two day workshop. Free. 5/14-5/15, 12-3 P.M., MCA DANCE THEATER

Chamber Music Concert

Student chamber music groups present selections from the Brahms Horn Trio and Beethoven’s Opus 18, No. 1, coached by Cynthia Huard and Dieuwke Davydot. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Free. 5/15, 4 P.M., MCA CONCERT HALL

A Midsummer Night's Dream Delights

By Leah Lavigne
Managing Editor

On May 5-9 in Wright Theater, Associate Professor of Theatre Claudio Medeiros '90 directed Shakespeare's beloved comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, presenting a sparkling bookend to the College's interdisciplinary winter and spring semester celebrations of the 400th anniversary of the playwright's death. Beyond the surface delight of the play's whimsical storyworld of fairies and magic potions, the text weaves together three stories in a meta exploration of the theatrical process and narrative construction.

Composed of a relatively large cast of 25 student actors, *A Midsummer's Night Dream* is, at its very foundation, a fun play. Written before 1598, the work aligns thematically with other Shakespeare texts like *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Love's Labor's Lost*, all of which highlight poetic and rhetorical craft while exploring the many possible definitions of literal and metaphorical fantasy worlds.

Upon entering the theater, audience members encountered actors on stage in modern clothing as they informally gestured and spoke among themselves, hinting at this production's heightened interest in the process of making a theatrical piece. The first narrative of the play is a relatively common Shakespeare plot of star-crossed lovers — Hermia, who is in love with Lysander, is betrothed to Demetrius, the object of Helena's affection, and as a result, dramatic potential abounds. The four actors — Kathleen Gudas '16.5, Al-

Costume and prop malfunctions, zealous gestures and interruptions of direct address from the actors to the lovers on the stage rendered the play within a play a joyful 10-minute burst of pure physical comedy.

floor cover disappearing to display "a great white box." This was inspired by Peter Brook's famous 1970 production privileging light and the imagination of the audience. Carefully placed chairs and climbing wall holds on these rotating back panels provided a spatially dynamic playground for the eight fairies, also dressed in white for the duration of the play.

It is the (unsuccessful) magical manipulations of King Oberon, played by Kahari Blue '19, and Liana Barron's '18 Queen Titania — both majestically costumed in sumptuous white capes and magnificent crowns that drastically contrasted with the modern dress of the previous scene — that bring the narratives of the lovers and the Rude Mechanicals together.

The comic relief of the Rude Mechanicals — who offer the most obvious tribute to the theatrical process as they

Alexander Burnett '16, Connor Wright '18 and Caitlyn Meagher '17, respectively — had excellent chemistry throughout the play, especially during a complex and physical fight scene choreographed by Adam Milano '15. Throughout the opening scene, which was staged as a rehearsal, these actors paused and asked for direction about their lines or blocking, and the sparse set, consisting solely of black blocking squares and two chairs in front of a black background, refused to allow audience immersion in the plot. However, this stark visual portrayal of the workshop process proved a dramatic contrast to the reveal of the dazzling white set design of the following forest scene, black panels rotating and the black



ANTHEA VIRAGH

A Midsummer Night's Dream marked the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

cast, rehearse, and try to define the relationship between actor and character in their own lover's play, Pyramus and Thisbe — acts a link between the fantasy of the forest and the dilemmas facing the lovers in the city. This acting troupe is led by Nick Bottom, played with enthusiastic vigor by standout Zac Lounsbury '16.

Sam Martin's '19 ambitious Robin Goodfellow (perhaps better known as the central fairy Puck), carries out Oberon and Titania's requests to administer a potion that causes the victim to fall in love with the first creature he or she sees. Conflict ensues when Puck incorrectly gives the potion to Lysander instead of Demetrius, causing a love triangle between the men and Helena, while Tatiana wakes up to see a version of Nick Bottom who has been transformed into, well, an ass' head. Though he had played his opening scenes to great comedic effect, Lounsbury's reappearance with the head of a donkey established a new standard of delight among giggling audience members. As is true of most of Shakespeare's comedies, all is well in the end, but the real pleasure is in watching the resolution of the conflicts.

The final performance of the farcical and self-referential Pyramus and Thisbe by the Rude Mechanicals for the lovers and the theater audience served as the pinnacle of gregarious spectacle, capitalizing on the comedic timing and physicalities of Lounsbury, Yossi Sachi '19 as Pyramus' lover Thisbe and Max Lieblich '18 as the physical representation of a wall in between them. Lounsbury's fuschia satin ensemble, prancing steps and playful interaction with the fake mustache that spent as much time on the floor as on his face caused raucous laughter in the theater. This was only outdone by Sachi's exaggerated vocal and physical portrayal of a woman, complete with white cake makeup and a wig that only occasionally remained on

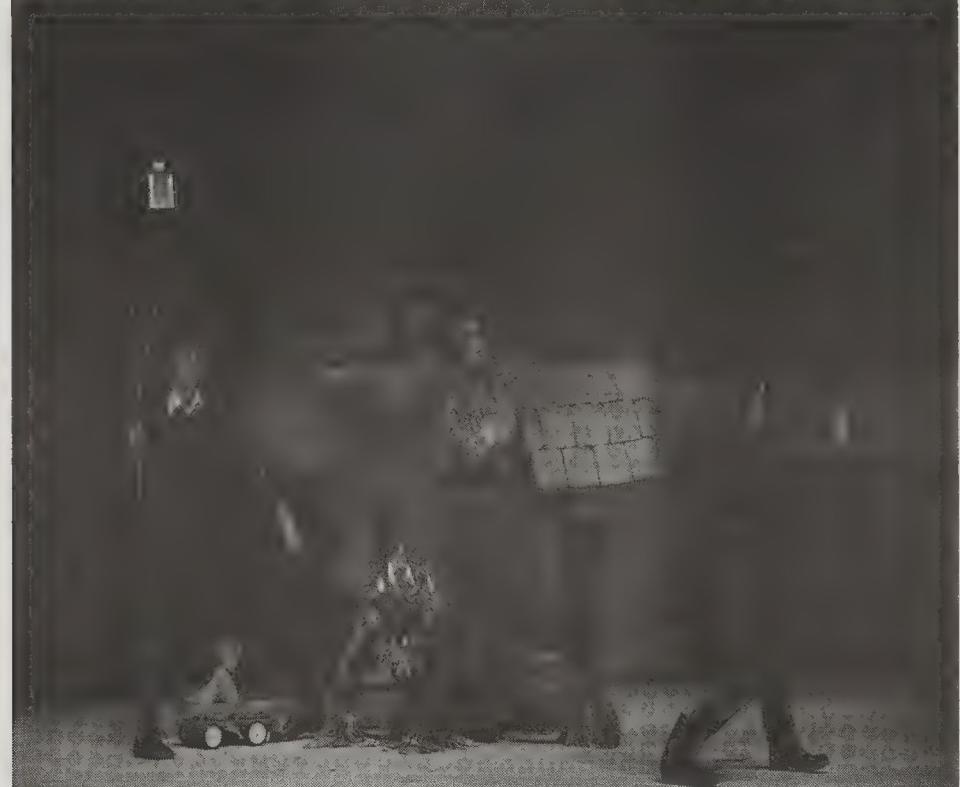
his head. Costume and prop malfunctions, zealous gestures and interruptions of direct address from the actors to the lovers on the stage rendered the play within a play a joyful 10-minute burst of pure physical comedy, one outburst of laughter quickly replacing another as the performance unravels.

The choice to cast a physical representation of the Indian Boy, the ambiguously literal or metaphorical source of Oberon and Titania's marital disharmony portrayed by Manny Duran '19, served as a point of inspiration for the production.

"I always wait for an impulse, a rumbling, something in the gut; I wait for the text, through a crack...to whisper something that will disturb, haunt, and doggedly refuse to leave," Medeiros said in his Director's Note. "This Dream began with that boy, and it was through him that we returned to theatre itself and its power to stir very deeply, and to make conscious what we either fear to see or, better yet, what we cannot dream possible."

The final scene of the production came full circle, showing the actors as they took off their costumes and congratulated each other on the performance. As the players exited the stage, Blue remained, turning to see the Indian Boy walking toward him, thus further complicating the divide between fantasy and reality and reminding the audience of theatrical mirage.

Revelatory set design, whimsical fairies dancing through the aisles, and slapstick physical comedy made for an engaging adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Though the self-referential rehearsal style of the opening scene proved jarring, the production fully engaged with Shakespeare's exploration of the illusions of theatre, taking innovative risks to display the timeless potential of the playwright's work to surprise, delight and transform.



ANTHEA VIRAGH

The play within a play served as a meta-exploration of the illusions of the theatre.

BOOKING IT

By Abigail Walton
Staff Columnist

The Sorcerer of the Wildeeps is a beautifully written novel filled with electric prose. Containing unforgettable lines such as "Metamorphosis is like death," this work pretends to be a novella but is so much more. Author Kai Ashante Wilson packs these 208 pages with the world-building of a much larger book. Though the plot may sound cliché — man and beloved travel, encounter problems and fight monstrous creatures in a frightening forest — it is an altogether

THE SORCERER OF THE WILDEEPS

deeper and more layered story than this description would imply. I was drawn to this novel because of the love story between Damane and Captain Isa.

Since leaving his homeland, Damane has been known as the Sorcerer. He is descended from gods, as is the Captain of the caravan, which Damane joins in its trek across a wasteland and through the forest of the Wildeeps to reach Great Olorum. Damane is in love with Captain Isa, and his feelings soon escalate to an all-consuming passion. Fraught with difficulties, however, their relationship is sharp-edged and filled with

misunderstandings.

Language is a big theme in Wilson's work. This is demonstrated through the Captain, who sings instead of speaking. Yet we cannot trust Damane as a reliable narrator — so does Isa really sing? Or is this another manifestation of Damane's love for his Captain? At the heart of this novella is a tragedy. Though the ending is ambiguous, the footnotes that litter

this novel foreshadow the inevitable: Damane's pain.

Though the plot may sound cliché — man and beloved travel, encounter problems and fight monstrous creatures in a frightening forest — it is an altogether deeper and more layered story than this description would imply.

Upon finishing the book, I wanted to hear more about Damane and his hinted past. Hopefully there will be a sequel, since this world is too stunning to be forgotten just yet. Different from anything else I have read in a long time, this book definitely lives up to its glowing reviews.

Check out go/bookingit for other reviews.

Art Installation Addresses Sexual Assault

By Elizabeth Zhou
Arts & Sciences Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The potential to cause unintentional harm to viewers, particularly to survivors or people who may be triggered by the performance, is an issue that the group continues to navigate. As a statement on their blog articulates, "We recognize that performance art activism should be disruptive, and discomfort is a natural and intended reaction to something challenging the status quo. However, we also want to be careful not to harm the people we are trying to advocate for. [...] We are continuing to think of ways that we can evolve the installation to prepare for the potential impact it could have on survivors."

Because alcohol consumption, party spaces and rape culture are so intimately connected, the purpose of bringing the movement to various areas on campus is to make sexual assault visible in places beyond neutral discussion venues. The group acknowledges the importance of extending the conversation beyond a self-selected audience.

"People who are motivated by the cause will show up to certain things," Dunn said. "But there's a pretty large group of people who actively avoid these conversations, not because they don't have the time, but because they don't want to."

However, Dunn also recognized the intensely sensitive nature of the subject for many individuals on campus.

"Of course, we understand if your own personal experiences have been negative or you don't have the mental energy. That's understandable for us, and that's always been very difficult for us, because we don't want to trigger people or make people really uncomfortable," they said. "But at the same time, there's a different kind of discomfort on this campus that just leads to silencing. That's something we've been trying to address – that culture of silence, pretending that this isn't an issue."

Student responses to this radical activism have varied widely. Negative feedback has stemmed largely from male-identifying individuals, with such reactions as, "F**k you guys," "Why are you targeting us?" "I've never sexually assaulted anyone!" "Get out, we're just trying to have fun!" "I'm gay, so I could never sexually assault anyone!" "Bitch!" and "This isn't art. Have you seen the Sistine Chapel? That's art." One of the most disturbing comments was, "She thinks sexual assault is a problem? I'll sexually assault her."

During one of the Atwater installations, a group of men carrying solo cups stood in line with their backs to one of the performers, forming a human wall.

"The goal was to block us from view, to limit our power, to say, 'You're not welcome here,'" Grady-Benson said.

Amid the annoyance, denial and hostility of passersby, an informal – and alarm-



STARES ON STAIRS BLOG

Stares on Stairs performers hope to expand the dialogue on sexual assault by setting up installations in party spaces on campus.

ing – body of research is emerging.

"We're getting people to say things to us that they're thinking or saying behind closed doors, and we're trying to make that public," Grady-Benson explained.

Despite the negativity, there has also been an outpouring of support from other observers. Comments have included "Thank you so much for doing this," "This is so important," "You are all so brave," "I can't believe nobody has done anything like this before," "As a survivor, this really speaks to me" and "How can I get involved?"

In a process filled with political strife, some individuals have expressed discomfort with the radical nature of the movement. As such, participation in Stares on Stairs has shifted throughout the past few months.

"We really want to emphasize that everyone has agency in this project," Grady-Benson stated. "There is no shame or judgment if this is not for you."

"I never want to push people on that, because I think an individual is the best person to evaluate the level of risk that they are ready to accept," Dunn added. "But it's sort of a tradeoff, because in order to get something accomplished, you do have to put yourself out there in some kind of a way and take a risk. I wish that people who are able to – mentally healthy enough and in a good enough place – would open themselves up to that risk. There's a difference between 'I don't want to be triggered' or 'I've had a really bad week so I can't do this right now' and 'I'm nervous about what people will think if they realize that I am involved in this kind of radical action.'"

Each role in the performance comes with its own set of difficulties. The performer, half-naked and marked by handprints, must stand silently as they become the subject of stares, some hostile, some curious and some at an indiscernible point in between.

"It's really informed my experience to be a performer and not speak to people. There's so much I want to say to people as they're walking by," Sather said.

"It's not that we are silent," Chang said. "I would say that our body is the message."

Meanwhile, the bodyguards must be attuned to the mood of the space as partygoers – most of them intoxicated – stream past them, occasionally interacting with the performance.

"People have said the craziest things, like, 'I'm an art history major. This isn't art,'" Sather said. "You have to evaluate – is this something I should engage in, or simply something to remark on later?"

"Perhaps we bother some people by bringing such a serious topic to party spaces that are meant to be overflowing with good music, laughing and dancing," Mayopoulos said. "But the truth is, I'd much rather receive a charged comment from a partner who doesn't want to engage with our performance because it ruins the good vibes of their partying than not do this performance and see the number of sexual assaults in-

crease."

The group performs in short stretches, reconvening every 10 minutes to check how everyone is emotionally, physically and mentally. As a show of solidarity, they come as a group and leave as a group, with the entire performance lasting from one to two hours. Afterward, people may go their separate ways to rest, or debrief if there is something pressing to address. The group always offers an open discussion to the campus a couple of days after the event, but so far, no one beyond the immediate circle of participants has shown up.

"Getting people to care on campus is really hard for any activist movement," Grady-Benson explained. "It's easy for people to either say 'f**k you' or 'love you' and not really care the next day."

"If you care about this issue, maybe you don't have to come to our event, but do you want to write something? Do you want to help us make posters or art? There are a lot of ways to support our group besides physically participating in protest," Dunn said.

In spite of all the barriers that Stares on Stairs has encountered – from administrative hesitation to student apathy to outright aggression – these activists are determined to awaken the dialogue on sexual assault, and to shift the culture of victim-blaming

Negative feedback has stemmed largely from male-identifying individuals, with such reactions as, "Fk you guys," "Why are you targeting us?" and "She thinks sexual assault is a problem? I'll sexually assault her."**

that has affected colleges across the nation. As one exhausting and informative semester draws to a close, they are already brainstorming ways to expand their mission, from posting photographs to bringing the movement to other campuses to diversifying the group to include more genders and sexual identities. All the while, however, these students acknowledge the limitations and risks inherent in their work.

"This is not a finished thing. We don't have a formula. There's still a lot of room for growth. This is not just high risk for ourselves, but for our community, and we want to recognize that us doing a disruptive action can have a harmful impact, even if that's not our intention, particularly on survivors of sexual assault," Chang said. "Continuing to be in conversation with MiddSafe advocates and other people not in the group has been really important. We are learning each time. This is by no means the right way. It's just us trying to do the work as intentionally and mindfully as possible."

Visit [go/stares](#) or [go/stairs](#) to learn more about their mission.



STARES ON STAIRS BLOG

The staircases outside the Atwater suites served as the venue for a few performances.

Seniors to Present Science Theses

By Toby Aicher
Arts & Sciences Editor

Graduating seniors will present their senior science theses this May. Their theses represent at least a year's worth of original research. Many students consider doing a thesis one of their most valuable experiences at the College.

"Nothing was prescribed, if there was something I thought would work I could try it," said Sam Horn '16, who completed a biology thesis. "I had the flexibility of working independently. It gave me the chance to explore a topic more in depth than I would have ever been able to do in a class."

One major theme of senior biology theses was lyme disease. The bacteria *Ixodes scapularis*, which is spread by tick bites, causes lyme disease. There are 30,000 reported cases of lyme disease a year and when untreated, the disease can lead to severe neurological defects such as facial nerve paralysis and arthritis.

Jack Desmarais '16 conducted research on improving techniques to detect and diagnose lyme disease. Current diagnostic measures are often inaccurate and have high rates of false negatives. Desmarais attempted to create a biosensor using a molecule known as a riboswitch. Under normal conditions, the riboswitch prevents the expression of a fluorescent molecule. But when a molecule unique to lyme disease is present in a patient's blood sample, the switch turns off and the fluorescent molecule is expressed, warning of the presence of lyme disease. Desmarais was able to create several preliminary versions of riboswitches and is currently testing if they can detect mol-

ecules unique to lyme disease.

"It was gratifying to find out recently that another scientific team is attempting to use riboswitches to detect Zika virus," Desmarais said. "It means that this approach has enormous potential."

Carter Merenstein '16 researched ecology of bacterial species found in ticks. Merenstein collected ticks and found that nearly 50 percent of adult ticks contain the bacteria that cause lyme disease. He then investigated to see if the ticks without lyme disease had different types of bacteria than those with lyme disease. Carter was unable to find a significant difference in the composition of bacterial species in ticks with and without lyme disease because he had a small sample size. However, he found preliminary evidence that one tick he investigated carried another potential human pathogen known as *Kiplorickettsia massiliensis*.

Kate Bauman '16 conducted research on natural products in Assistant Professor of Biochemistry Anne Giddings' lab. Bauman is Giddings' first thesis student. Bauman's research focused on investigating bacteria for useful and interesting chemicals. One of the major applications of the research is antibiotic discovery. Most antibiotics are derived from molecules discovered in bacteria. A central problem in natural products research is that most bacteria only express one percent of their genes when cultured in a laboratory.

Bauman cultured the bacteria she was investigating with other species of bacteria to try to push them to express more genes and produce more chemicals than normally seen in lab. Using a technique called mass spectroscopy, Bauman identified several previously known mol-

ecules and discovered a potentially novel, unreported compound.

Every department has its own requirements for independent work. The math and physics department require a semester of independent research, which can be extended into a full thesis, and the math department requires one semester of independent research. Geology requires all of their students to complete a thesis. This year 14 students conducted geology research, which ranged from Drew Gorin's '16 project on attempting to infer ancient changes in climate from mineral deposits in a cave in Weybridge, to Ryan McElroy's '16.5 project on understanding forces that influence sedimentation in mountains in Utah.

The Chemistry & Biochemistry, Biology and Molecular Biology departments have no requirements for senior work, although students who complete theses receive departmental honors. One professor speaking anonymously mentioned that there was pressure from the administration to require senior work.

"The administration would like for us to require some form of senior work, in part because it's a statistic that looks good for the school, but they don't seem willing to provide us with the increased resources that would be necessary to do that," he said. "We want all our students to collect

their own empirical data. If we required everyone to do a thesis it could cheapen the experience for students and decrease the quality of that work. There's limited lab space and resources in the sciences."

Many students doing theses decide to stay at the College and conduct research over the summer.

"For my project, it was really helpful to stay over the summer because I ran into a lot of problems in places where I needed to troubleshoot," Horn said. "Plus, when you do research without other classes you get so much more done than you ever could during a semester. But I also know plenty of people who have done a good job and got lots of good results but haven't been here over the summer."

Chemistry students have already finished presenting their theses, but biology, neuroscience and physics theses will be presented during the rest of May. On Thursday May 12 at 12:30 p.m. in MBH 220, Luc Pomerance '16 will present his thesis on the genetics of neurotransmitter release in nematodes, and Erin Miller '16.5 will present research on spatial memory in chemically modified mice. On Friday May 13 at 12:30 p.m. in MBH 220, Vera Chan '16 will present her thesis on using buckwheat to increase crop yields, and Annie Taylor '16 will present her research on California's historic drought.

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: SCENES AND SONGS

By Connor Forrest
Senior Columnist

Scenes and Songs is an annual performance of musical theatre with selections from opera to Broadway performed by students. The evening promises an intriguing medley of both solo and group performances by some of the best voices on campus. Nowhere else will you get exposure to such a wide range of vocal talent and style. Stop by the Concert Hall of the Mahaney Center of the Arts (MCA) at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 14.

Although all the pieces are drawn from either musical or operatic theatre, the performances put the spotlight entirely on the singer by utilizing few set, prop or costume pieces. This is not to say that each piece will consist of a student standing in front of a microphone. Performers will enact each piece as if it were occurring within its original show, with all the movement and drama entailed.

Each piece has been carefully selected to both challenge and suit the individual singer, while also creating a fun and diverse experience for the audience. As such, there is not a unifying theme for the evening. Some of the 30 different student performers will offer only solo performances, while others will join together for duets and ensemble favorites.

Some, such as Emma Gee '16, will appear in a number of pieces. Gee will sing "Divo Amore" as part of a trio from the opera *Orfeo ed Euridice*, "In the Light of the Virgin Morning" as a duo from the musical *Jane Eyre* and "I Feel Pretty" along with the other Shark women from the musical *West Side Story*.

When I asked Gee what drew her to opera, while most performers seem to be focusing on musicals, she replied, "I tend to sing more opera-type pieces because my voice is suited to that type of music. Everyone has different strengths!"

Coordinating such a large group and so many different pieces is no easy task. I was able to catch up with Affiliate Artist, Program Coordinator and Vocal Instructor Carol Christensen to get a few details on producing such a show.

Middlebury Campus (MC): As one of the vocal instructors, what has your role been in Scenes and Songs?

Carol Christensen (CC): "I start planning for the scenes concert in December during the break, going through

"The subtitle of our concert is 'A Sampling of Musical Theatre from Opera to Broadway.' We want to highlight their similarities and let people know that opera can be just as fun and engaging as Broadway musical theatre."

-CAROL CHRISTENSEN
PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND VOCAL INSTRUCTOR

music is another story. Sometimes I have to drop an idea if I can't find the music anywhere."

MC: What kind of performances can we expect to see on Saturday?

CC: "We're doing a scene from Gluck's semi-opera (or "dramatic opera"), "King Arthur," which, as is characteristic of this genre, involves singing and dancing by pastoral and/or supernatural characters. Additionally, there will be scenes from Mozart's operas "Le nozze di Figaro" and "Così fan tutte," as well as musical theatre numbers and scenes from *South Pacific*, *West Side Story*, *Spring*

Awakening and many works in between. The subtitle of our concert is "A Sampling of Musical Theatre from Opera to Broadway." We want to highlight their similarities and let people know that opera can be just as fun and engaging as Broadway musical theatre."

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MC: Are voice lessons geared toward theatre majors or could you help an utter layperson like myself?

CC: Any student at Middlebury, no matter what their major, can take voice lessons in the music department. There are no auditions, and all levels are welcome, from beginners to singers who are already very experienced before coming to the College. Some singers are more classically oriented, some more interested in musical theatre style singing and some are interested in improving their vocal technique for singing with their a cappella groups, or to feel more confident with an audition for an acappella group."

If you're interested in vocal lessons, visit the music department website for more information. Scenes and Songs is free, so I hope to see you Saturday, May 14 at 8 p.m. in the MCA Concert Hall.



The MCA Concert Hall will host Scenes and Songs, the annual musical theatre performance, this Saturday, May 14 at 8 p.m.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Women's Lacrosse Knocks Off Trinity To Win Title

By Remo Plunkett
Sports Editor

The second-seeded Middlebury women's lacrosse team emerged victorious from a weekend of competition at the NESCAC Tournament hosted by Trinity on Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8. The Panthers began the weekend with a 13-4 win over third-seeded Amherst to advance to Sunday's conference championship game against tournament host Trinity. On Sunday, Middlebury displaced the five-time defending NESCAC champions by a final score of 10-7.

Middlebury got off to a strong start against Amherst, holding the Lord Jeffs scoreless throughout the first 45 minutes of play. The Panthers went on to mount a formidable 12-goal advantage before their opponents were able to find the back of the net.

Alli Sciarretta '16 led Middlebury's offensive effort in the first half, recording four goals as the Panthers surged to a 9-0 lead heading into the halftime break. Hollis Perticone '18 added three goals of her own in the team's first-half run and Mary O'Connell '17 was good for one tally in addition to four assists.

Scoring slowed in the second 30 minutes of regulation, with the Panthers only adding three to the scoreboard off two goals from Megan Griffin '16 and a single score from Emma McDonagh '19 off a free position shot. Rachel Passarelli scored an unassisted goal to put Amherst on the board at the 14:10 mark of the second half. Three late goals from the Lord Jeffs were not enough to combat Middlebury's lead, and the Panthers moved on to the championship with a 13-4 victory.

The top-seeded Bantams entered the championship game with a 15-2 record,

while the second-seeded Panthers sat at 16-1, with their only loss coming at the hands of Trinity during the regular season.

Middlebury struck first on the day when Perticone capitalized on a feed from Griffin three minutes into regulation. Trinity's Kiley Coffey responded shortly after to tie the score at one apiece. Middlebury exploded on a 7-0 run throughout the remainder of the opening half. Perticone added another two tallies while Chrissy Ritter '16, Bridget Instrum '16, O'Connell, Griffin and Sciarretta added one each.

The Panthers returned to the field with an 8-2 lead and only 30 minutes away from a NESCAC championship. Trinity refused to give up and battled back to score six of the eight second-half goals. The Bantams cut their deficit to four at the 12:01 mark after a goal from

Martha Griffin notched the score at 9-5. Instrum added an unassisted tally with 6:50 remaining to cap the Panther scoring effort. Trinity added a pair of goals in the final five minutes to get within three, but it was not enough and the Panthers knocked off the Bantams 10-7.

"We are all really proud of our performance this weekend. It feels like we are peaking at the perfect time in the season and we hope to carry this momentum into the NCAA Tournament," said Perticone, who had a combined six-goal performance over the weekend.

The outcome marks Trinity's first loss in the NESCAC Championship in five years and the Panther's first title since 2007. With the win, Middlebury earns an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament and improves to 17-1 on the season while the Bantams fell to 15-3.

TRACK & FIELD: WOMEN FINISH FOURTH, MEN FINISH NINTH AT DIII NEW ENGLANDS

By Colby Morris
Staff Writer

As the Middlebury Track and Field teams continue on to bigger meets, the field will get more competitive as the runners are narrowed down to the best of the best. The Panthers' teams journeyed to Springfield, MA to compete in the Division III New England Championships following their strong showing in the NESCAC meets.

Each side had an impressive finish as the women placed fourth out of 31 teams and the men placed ninth out of 31 teams.

"Coming off of the high of competing as a team at NESCACs last weekend that can be pretty mentally exhausting, it was great to see so many people come back and get good results in bad weather," co-Captain Alex Morris '16 said.

For the men, Kevin Serrao '18 led the pack as he broke a 12-year-old college record in the 800-meter run, good for fourth place in the event and All-New England accolades. Serrao's time of 1:52.29, lowers the time of 1:52.61 set by Nick Digani '05 in 2004. Jimmy Martinez '19 picked up All-New England accolades too, finishing first in the 400-meter dash with a time of 48.43 seconds, winning by a hearty .78 seconds and earning 10 of the team's 22 total points.

Off the track for the men, John Natalone '19 had another impressive performance with a pole vault height of 14'9" that was good for second place overall.

Other top 10 finishes came from Jonathan Perlman '19, who finished ninth in the 1,500-meter run at 3:57.91, and Tyler Farrell '18, who finished 10th in the 400-meter hurdles in just 56.16 seconds.

For the Middlebury women, many

top eight finishes led to All-New England accolades. Lauren Bougioukas '16 finished second at 2:15.20 and was the first of three Panthers to the cross the line in the 800-meter run. Isabella Alfaro '18 was fifth in 2:16.12 and Brianna Bisson '18 followed closely behind her in eighth place at 2:17.24.

The 4x400-meter relay team of Lucy Lang '19, Kate McCluskey '18, Paige Fernandez '17 and Morris finished second with a time of 3:54.45.

"It was pretty sentimental for me because I raced in my last ever 4x400 relay, which has been one of my favorite events over the past four years here," Morris said. "It was great to place second with a group of girls that means a lot to me."

Fernandez also ended up in eighth place in the 400-meter hurdles with a mark of 1:05.26.

For the Panther women's distance runners, Abigail Nadler '19 set the pace as she ran to a third-place finish in the

1,500-meter run at 4:33.33.

In the field for the Panthers, Carly Andersen '16 won the javelin throw with the best throw of 134'8", and Devon Player '18 finished seventh with a distance of 120'11". Kreager Taber '19 ended up with a third place finish in the pole vault competition with a height of 10'11.75", and Maddie Pronovost '17 collected 3,819 points for a fifth-place showing in the heptathlon.

The Panthers continue to demonstrate their depth and versatility with their strong finishes last weekend and will look to continue their success as they enter the final stretch of their season.

Both teams will be back in action later this week at Southern Connecticut State on Friday and Saturday, May 13-14, for the Open New England Championships as they continue along the path to the ECAC and then NCAA Championships on May 26.

EDITORS' PICKS



ANDREW RIGAS (53-36, .595)



WILL CASE (26-18, .590)



REMO PLUNKETT (66-56, .541)



ALEX MORRIS (105-96, .522)



EMILY BUSTARD (74-81, .477)

Lacrosse: Will both the men's and women's teams advance to the NCAA Quarterfinals?

NO
Sorry, I don't think the men will do it.

YES
Panthers are looking strong heading into crunch time.

YES
They'll both fly through the first round without a problem.

YES
My last ever editor's picks. I shed a tear.

YES
Go Panthers.

NBA pick'em: Who wins the series, Spurs or Thunder?

SPURS
Pop and the Spurs are just too tough.

SPURS
If this is their last rodeo, they aren't going down before the calendar turns to June.

THUNDER
Bye, Alex. You're still mighty to me!

SPURS
I remember the day when I used to reign on top of the ed's pick board. Oh how the mighty have fallen.

THUNDER
Boom.

Tennis: Will both the men's and women's teams advance to the NCAA Quarterfinals?

YES
I've been covering the teams all year, they're good.

YES
Men's team rides nine game streak, women's won eight of last nine.

YES
Both teams have been dominant all season, this is their time to really shine.

YES
My ed picks career really is the opposite of the started from the bottom now I'm here. Drake would be disappointed in me.

YES
They've been doing great lately.

NBA pick'em: Who wins the series, Raptors or Heat?

RAPTORS
Does it really matter though? The Cavs are better than both these teams.

HEAT
Will be an exciting showdown with the Cavs.

HEAT
Gotta support the 6.

RAPTORS
And with that I bid you all farewell. Keep these boys in line, Emily. #alexout

HEAT
This pick is my first move towards claiming the top spot next January when I get back from abroad.

Baseball Wins More Than Past Two Years Combined

By Ethan Brady
Features Editor

The Middlebury baseball team ended their season with an 11-23 record, dropping two doubleheaders to Bowdoin and Tufts and losing an out-of-conference game to St. Joseph's to end its season on a six-game losing streak after losing to Union last Tuesday as well. Head Coach Bob Smith ended his career after 32 years and 839 games of coaching.

"I humbly leave the program with more needing to be done but content with how we are viewed in our conference," Smith said. "We tried to always show up to play hard and compete."

The Panthers, whose final conference record was 6-6, will not compete in the NESCAC tournament this year. The last time the team made the tournament was in 2011, and their last NESCAC title came in 2006.

On Thursday, May 5, the Panthers lost 1-0 to St. Joseph's. The Fighting Saints scored the game's only run in the second inning, when Justin Lemanski walked, advanced a base on an error and ran home on a throwing error to third base.

Middlebury's first scoring opportunity came in the sixth inning. Johnny Read '17 sent a base hit to center field. Two batters later, Sam Graf '19 made it to first on a single down the right-field line but was

tagged out at second when trying to stretch the single into a double.

The Panthers threatened again in the seventh inning, when John Luke '16 and Joe MacDonald '16 hit back-to-back singles in the first two at-bats. But St. Joseph's racked up two outs in consecutive fielder's choices, and relief pitcher Luis Ramos picked off a runner to end the inning.

The Panthers hosted Bowdoin for a doubleheader on Saturday, May 7, but dropped both games by scores of 6-0 and 3-0. The Polar Bears got on the board in the first game with three consecutive singles in the top of the second inning. Bowdoin added a run an inning later after an error, a sacrifice bunt and a double down the rightfield line.

The Panthers threatened in the top of the sixth. Garrett Werner '16 managed to reach third base, but a pop fly out ended the inning. The Polar Bears sealed the victory in the top of the seventh, scoring four runs on four hits to make it 6-0.

In game two, Bowdoin took an early lead again with two tallies in the second inning. John Bunting '19, starting pitcher for the Panthers, recorded two outs after the first run, but Jack Wilhoite of the Polar Bears singled to left to bring the second runner home.

Bowdoin extended its lead to a final 3-0 in the sixth inning, as Brandon Lopez scored on a passed ball. Jason Lock '17,

Max Araya '16 and Alex Deutsch '18 each had singles for the Panthers at the plate. Bunting allowed three runs on seven hits, striking out six and walking one.

The Panthers returned to the diamond on Sunday for its final two games of the season and Smith's career. They lost twice to Tufts by scores of 5-1 and 9-0. In game one, Tufts took an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first. A Middlebury error loaded the bases for Tufts' Mike McLaughlin, who reached second on an error and scored two runs.

In the second, MacDonald reached first on catcher's interference and scored on a Brendan Donahue '18 single. In the fifth, Jake Turtel '18 made a diving catch to his right on a line drive, and John Tipps '19 did the same to his left and threw to first for the out to keep the Panthers within one run.

The Panthers loaded the bases in the bottom of the fifth, but Luke flew out to center to end the inning. Then in the sixth, Tufts extended their lead to a final 5-1 after a two-run single plated Oscar Kutch and Mike McLaughlin. Over seven innings, MacDonald allowed five runs, three of which were earned, and eight hits on the mound for the Panthers.

Tufts nearly took the early lead again in the first inning of game two, but with bases loaded Middlebury recorded three outs straight out to get out of the inning unscathed. The Jumbos earned a 1-0 lead

in the second, when Will Shackle walked and later scored on a double to left center.

Middlebury threatened in the third inning with hits from Phil Bernstein '19 and Werner, but they stranded both runners. In the fifth, the Jumbos plated three runs in the fifth inning, making the score 4-0.

The Panthers put runners on first and third in the bottom of the inning, but Tufts got out of the jam once more. The Jumbos finished off the game in seventh inning, adding four runs on four hits to bring the tally to 9-0.

"It was a tough ending to a rewarding season," Smith said. "Breaking double digit wins (11) after two seasons with fewer, we felt that we had accomplished some of our goals. Beating Williams and Hamilton twice, and Amherst and Wesleyan each once, and actually hoping for a NESCAC tournament bid up until the next to last weekend was very exciting."

The Panthers end their 2016 season with an 11-23 mark and begin the search for a new head coach.

"Our seniors Mark Dickerson, Joe MacDonald, Max Araya, Garrett Werner and Johnny Luke did a fantastic job leading our team this year and their contributions in the big games made a big difference this season," Smith said. "It is great to see players persevere through the tough times and be rewarded."

Men's Tennis Rides Nine-Match Win Streak to NCAAs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

bani jumped on Luke Trinka and Luke Tercek and defeated the pair of Lukes 8-5 in first doubles, for the pair's fifth win in five matches in the first doubles slot. In the third slot, De Quant paired with Timo van der Geest '18 to win 8-5 as well, over Gil Roddy and Chase Savage. Van der Geest was filling in for Schlanger, who had to go to the emergency room that morning. Farrell and Smolyar completed the doubles sweep by overwhelming Kyle Wolfe and Jerry Jiang 8-3 in the second slot to give the Panthers a commanding 3-0 lead entering singles play. Since Hansen swapped his first and singles doubles, Middlebury has gone 10-0 in those

spots.

Only two individual matches away from a second straight NESCAC championship, Farrell swamped nationally tenth-ranked Tercek 6-3, 6-2. The Polar Bears did record one victory when Grant Urken beat van der Geest 6-3, 7-5, but that set the stage for Derbani to seal the championship and an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament with a 7-5, 6-4 win over Roddy in the fifth slot.

"It feels unbelievable to have this level of dominance both during the regular season and post season in the NESCAC," said Smolyar. "The conference is one of the most competitive conferences, if not the toughest, in the country and to be able to handily beat the #4 team in the country speaks volumes

about our progress as a team and about the growth in our culture."

For Middlebury, it is the team's second straight NESCAC title and caps off an undefeated run through the conference regular season and tournament. The last time the Panthers did so was 2010, when they defeated Trinity 5-0 in the semifinals, Williams 6-0 in the championship and went on to win the NCAA championship over Amherst.

"Overall, it was a great team effort with super strong doubles performances by the whole team and amazing singles efforts by Noah, Kyle, Will and Hamid," Hansen said.

The Panthers will make their 15th consecutive NCAA tournament appearance this weekend when they host the Regional Fi-

nals from May 13-15. Middlebury plays the winner of Wilkes and Hunter on Saturday, May 14. The College of New Jersey and Ramapo will also matchup in the first round on Friday, and the winner will draw Skidmore on Saturday. If the Panthers win on Saturday, they will face the winner of those three teams with a chance to advance to the NCAA quarterfinals.

After reaching the NCAA Regional Finals in his first year, Hansen and his team have advanced one round further each season, including a berth in the national championship match last season. If that were to continue this season, the men's tennis program will win its first NCAA championship since 2010 and its third in program history.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING TEAM Plunkett's Predictions

1 WOMEN'S LACROSSE
NESCAC Champs!

2 MEN'S TENNIS
Also NESCAC Champs!

3 MEN'S LACROSSE
Almost NESCAC Champs!

4 TRACK & FIELD
Both teams recorded top-10 performances at New England's and records were broken in the process.

5 WOMEN'S WATER POLO
They battled to an eighth place finish at the national competition out in Santa Cruz, California.

6 BASEBALL
A six-game losing streak to finish shouldn't overshadow their progress this season.

7 WOMEN'S TENNIS
Not the champions, but formidable in the NESCAC all season nonetheless.

8 THE END OF THE YEAR
Bittersweet. See you all next fall!

Women's Tennis Advances to Championship Round at NESCACs

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

The second-seeded women's tennis team triumphed over third-ranked Amherst 5-4 on Saturday, May 7 to advance to its first NESCAC Championship, but ran into a buzzsaw on Sunday, May 8 as Williams, the first seeded team and defending NESCAC and NCAA champion, shut out the Panthers 5-0. Despite this loss, the Panthers will host an NCAA regional match for the first time since 2012.

After a first-round bye, Middlebury entered the semifinals on Saturday against Amherst, who beat Tufts 5-4 on Friday to reach the semifinals. The Lord Jeffs struck first in doubles when Vickie Ip and Kelsey Chen shut out Sadie Shackelford '16 and Kaysee Orozco '17 8-0 in the second slot. In the third slot, Christina Puccinelli '19 and Alexandra Fields '17 tied it up with an 8-4 win over Rebecca Pol and Avery Wagman, but Middlebury's first doubles team of Ria Gerger '16 and Lily Bondy '17 fell to Sue Ghosh and Sarah Monteagudo in a tiebreaker 9-8 (8-6), giving Amherst a 2-1 lead.

"We have always been a very strong singles team," Puccinelli said. "No matter what the overall score is after doubles, we take the court for singles feeling confident that we can win those six matches, no matter who we're playing. Much of our strength in singles comes

from the fact that we don't play our matches alone, but as a team."

The Purple & White extended its lead when Wagman beat Shackelford 6-2, 6-4 in the sixth slot. Gerger responded with a straight set victory over Ghosh 7-5, 6-3 in the first slot, and Fields tied the match by defeating Ip 6-3, 6-3 in the second slot. Jackie Calla regained the lead for Amherst with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Bondy in the third slot.

Down 4-3 with two matches left to finish, Paradies kept the Panthers alive by outlasting Monteagudo in three sets 7-6 (8-6), 3-6, 6-0 in the fifth slot, making fourth singles the rubber match. Moments later, Puccinelli defeated Chen 6-1, 6-7 (5-7), 7-6 (7-3) to seal the victory for Middlebury, as the entire team match lasted over five hours.

"I honestly can't take credit for turning the match around though because my teammates pulled me through," Puccinelli said. "The amount of support and encouragement I received from them, even after falling so far behind in the third set, gave me the energy to finish out that match."

Williams won on Saturday as well, defeating Wesleyan 5-0, so the Panthers matched up with the Ephs in the NESCAC championship at the Portland Racquet Club & Fitness Center in Portland, Maine on Sunday. Less than a month ago, Williams defeated Middlebury 7-2, but the Panthers had not lost since that match and entered Sunday on an eight-match winning streak.

The defending national champions were too much for the Panthers, clinching a 5-0 victory in the first five matches to win their second straight NESCAC championship. In doubles, Maya Hart and Giulia McDonnell Nieto del Rio beat Puccinelli and Fields 8-3, Julia Cancio and Hannah Atkinson defeated Shackelford and Orozco 8-4 and Juli Raventos and Linda Shin completed the doubles sweep with an 8-3 win over Gerger and Bondy.

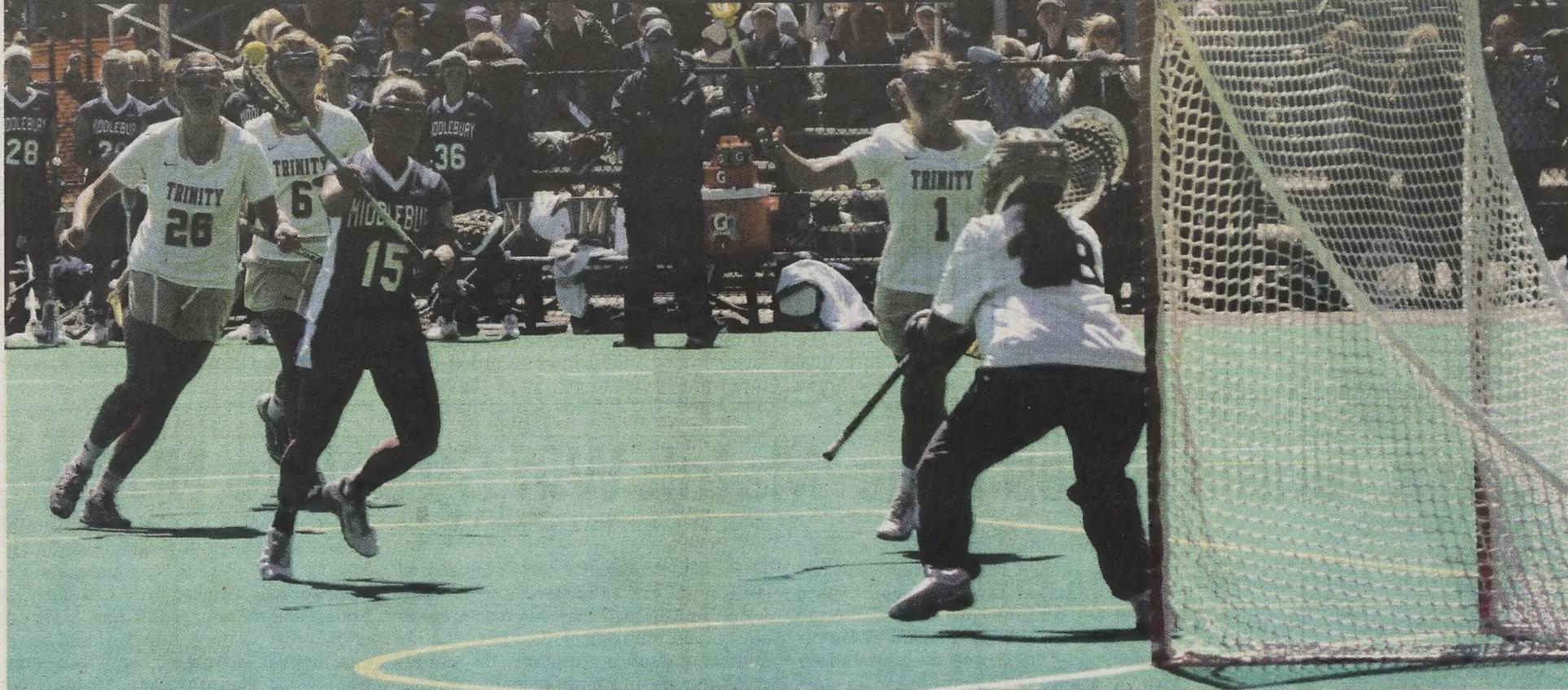
Needing just two singles victories to win the team match, Leah Bush won in straight sets over Shackelford 6-4, 6-2 in the sixth slot, and Atkinson beat Paradies 6-0, 6-2 in the fifth slot for Williams' second consecutive NESCAC championship.

"I think that we showed just how strong our team was, and just how much heart we have," Puccinelli said. "We'll continue to show our fight as we enter the NCAA tournament this weekend."

Moving forward, the Panthers have earned an at-large bid and the opportunity to host a NCAA regional after receiving a bye in the first round. The Middlebury women will play the winner of Baruch and The College of New Jersey on Friday, May 13. On the other side of the region, Johns Hopkins will play the winner of Elizabethtown and Penn State-Behrend. If Middlebury wins on Friday, the Panthers will face the winner of those three teams on Saturday in an attempt to earn a berth in the NCAA quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

DOWN WITH THE BANTAMS

Women's lacrosse ended Trinity's five-year run as NESCAC Champions, besting the tournament hosts by a score of 10-7 on Sunday. See page 18 for full coverage.



JEFF PATTERSON

Men's Lacrosse Advances to NESCAC Final, Receives At-Large NCAA Bid

By Trevor Schmitt
Senior Writer

The fourth-seeded Middlebury men's lacrosse team battled to a 10-9 win over third-seeded Bowdoin in the NESCAC Semifinal contest played at Tufts on Saturday, May 7. The win secured the Panthers an appearance in the next day's NESCAC Championship matchup against tournament host Tufts.

"I think we're all extremely excited about the opportunity to play in the NCAA tournament," Team Captain Sean Carroll '16 said. "We have been steadily gaining steam all season, highlighted by a great run in the NESCAC playoffs."

Middlebury came out of the gates hot against Bowdoin, netting the first three goals of the game, including one apiece from Jon Broome '16 and Tim Giarrusso '16 within a span of 43 seconds. Bowdoin's Daniel Buckman managed to stop the bleeding late in the first. However, Broome and Giarrusso continued to produce offense as the second quarter began, extending the Panther's lead to four. Bowdoin cut the lead to two after adding a pair of goals from Peter Reuter and Brett Kujala with under 5:00 remaining in the half.

The sides traded goals throughout the third quarter, but Middlebury remained on top to head into the final stanza with an 8-5 lead. Bowdoin refused to go down without a fight, as the Polar Bears went on a 3-1 run sparked by another Kujala finish to crawl back to within one with 6:56 remaining

in the fourth quarter. Again the sides traded the next two goals, as Middlebury's Jack Gould '19 and Bowdoin's Tim Bulens each added unassisted tallies to notch the game at 10-9 with 4:22 remaining.

Following a faceoff win by John Jackson '18 with 1:07 remaining in regulation, Bowdoin's Ryan Kenney forced a turnover and gave possession back to his squad, creating a chance to force overtime. Will Ernst '17 prevented extra time when he shut down a Matthew Crowell attempt with 20 seconds remaining to keep the Panthers afloat as time expired. Despite Bowdoin's late rally, the Panthers earned the victory by a final score of 10-9.

The following day, Middlebury looked to extend its winning streak to three and take home the NESCAC Championship as they faced top-seeded and nationally ranked No. 7 Tufts on Sunday, May 8.

Middlebury looked well on its way to victory after a first quarter marked by high-powered offense from both sides, resulting in a 9-5 Panther advantage heading into the second quarter. Tim Giarrusso paced the Panther offense with four goals and an assist in the first stanza, while Kyle Soroka '16 added two of his own. Although the Jumbos jumped out to an early 3-1 lead, strong play by Jackson at the faceoff allowed Middlebury to battle back and add five of the final six goals of the opening quarter.

The tides turned against Middlebury during the next 20 minutes, as the Jumbos allowed only one Panther goal while posting nine of their own to go up 14-10

with 10:12 remaining in the third quarter. Garrett Clarke, Zach Richman and John Uppgren all found the back of the net twice during the run for the Jumbos. Uppgren's goal with 1:12 remaining in the second quarter tied the score at 10-10 heading into halftime. Ben Andreycak scored at the 11:50 mark in the third to give Tufts a lead it would never relinquish.

Although Middlebury fought back hard in the third quarter, outscoring the hosts by a margin of 4-2 in the final 10 minutes of the stanza to come back to within two, Tufts maintained its lead to enter the fourth quarter at a 17-14 advantage. The Jumbos sealed the victory by adding four goals in the final quarter compared to zero from Middlebury to improve to 16-2 on the season and win a seventh straight NESCAC title. The victory afforded Tufts the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, where they will face Emmanuel College in a first-round matchup.

"Although we didn't come out on top, we are fortunate enough to get another chance and hope to take the recent momentum and keep rolling to Memorial Day," Carroll said.

Despite the loss, Middlebury's season is far from over as the team will make its 17th appearance in the NCAA Division III Men's Lacrosse Tournament when it hosts Springfield in a first-round contest on Wednesday, May 11. The Panthers defeated Springfield on the road earlier this season by a score of 10-8.

MEN'S TENNIS WINS NESCAC FOR SECOND STRAIGHT SEASON

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

Head Coach Bob Hansen's season-long effort to elevate his team's dominance in doubles to match its singles successes certainly paid off last weekend. The men's tennis team's doubles efforts in the NESCAC Championships last weekend propelled the Panthers to their second straight championship.

After losing to both teams in doubles 2-1 during the regular season, the first-seeded Panthers won two of their three doubles matches against fourth-seeded Wesleyan in the semifinals on Saturday, May 7, and then all three against second-seeded Bowdoin on Sunday to capture the title.

"We were very pleased with our doubles effort this weekend, which reflected our consistent commitment to it during the season," Hansen said.

Following a bye in the first round of the tournament, the Panthers took the courts at Bates on Saturday looking to defeat Wesleyan for the second time this season, whom they beat 5-4 in March.

After defeating Tufts 5-3 the day before, Wesleyan took the lead when the pair of Joachim Samson and Sam Rudovsky defeated William de Quant '18 and Kyle Schlanger '18 8-3 in third doubles. Noah Farrell '18 and Ari Smolyar '16 responded with a convincing 8-2 win over Michael Liu and Steven Chen in the second slot.

"Noah and I have put in a lot of extra work in the past few weeks around our volleys and service pat-

terns," Smolyar said. "I think we have really hit our stride and for the first time in two years are playing with an unparalleled level of confidence. Our execution as well as our commitment to run our pattern plays has really paid off."

Palmer Campbell '16 and Hamid Derbani '17 edged Zacko Brint and Greg Lyon 8-6 in the first slot to give the Panthers a 2-1 lead after doubles play.

Wesleyan took the first singles match as well when Cameron Daniels beat Derbani 6-4, 6-1 in the fifth slot. Schlanger moved to 7-0 this spring and gave Middlebury a 3-2 lead by handling Jake Roberts in straight sets 7-5, 6-2 in the sixth slot. In the fourth slot, de Quant lost the first set but came back from a one set deficit to defeat Samson 1-6, 6-3, 6-4, who beat de Quant in straight sets in their regular season match. Up 4-1, the Panthers had a chance to seal the match, and Farrell did just that by coming from behind as well to beat Chen 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2 in the first slot.

On April 17, less than a month before the Panthers matched up with Bowdoin in the NESCAC Championship, they knocked off the previously unbeaten Polar Bears 5-4 in Middlebury. The Polar Bears looked as ready as ever for revenge at the Portland Racquet Club & Fitness Center in Portland, Maine after shutting out Amherst 5-0 in the semifinal without surrendering a set.

However, Middlebury went ahead when Campbell and Der-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

INSIDE SPORTS



IMPRESSIVE WEEKEND FOR TRACK AND FIELD AT DIII NEW ENGLANDS PAGE 18



BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD, BUT BASEBALL ENDS ON SIX-GAME LOSING STREAK PAGE 19